

# Types of Cremation for Pets

## Private Cremation

This means there is only one pet in the cremation chamber in the same manner as human cremation, ensuring each pet family is receiving only the remains of their animal companion. Private cremation can take longer because it is truly one at a time. **Schoedinger Pet Services provides *only this type of service and follows the same protocols as human cremation.***

## Individual Cremation

An individual cremation, also sometimes referred to as “private partitioned”, means multiple pets are placed in the cremation chamber separated by fire-proof bricks; the cremains returned to you will have comingling (particles of all the animals cremated in the chamber at that time). Many pet cremation companies will say that they offer individual cremation to make you think that it is private, but that is not private cremation.

## Communal Cremation

Communal cremation is when multiple pets are placed in the cremation chamber together and the remains are not separated throughout the cremation process. Your pet’s remains are not generally available to you with this option. Disposition of the pet’s remains are at the discretion of the cremation provider; if you do receive cremains, they are most definitely not only your pet.

## Know what to ask!

It is important to ask several questions when choosing a cremation provider for your pet. Know what you want and how to ask for it – it’s important to know what you are receiving for what you are paying. Terminology and processes are not standard within the pet cremation industry, so it is important to know what questions to ask of a cremation provider to ensure you are receiving the service you want for your loved one.

- How many pets are in the cremation chamber at a time?
  - Only **private** cremation can provide you with the remains of only your pet. Due to the nature of the cremation process, significant comingling of pet’s remains happens during a partitioned (individual) cremation.
- What is included in the cost of cremation?
  - Some providers will charge a low fee for cremation (only) and add additional fees for each keepsake and service item. Higher fees may have more complete packages or offer expanded delivery options. Shop around until you find exactly what you want.
- What is the tracking process used to ensure I am receiving my pet?
  - With Schoedinger Pet Services’ Commitment To Care®, you can be assured your pet is accurately tracked from the minute they enter our care to the time they come back home to you. Each animal companion is assigned a cremation number/barcode, given a steel tag that stays with them, and is scanned at each point of their journey.

- How can you prove that the prints/fur are my pets?
  - At Schoedinger Pets, we use the same tracking number and barcoding for all steps we take with your pet including labelling each keepsake item. Since no other pet is having keepsakes done at the time your pet is, we can verify each piece and have a triple check system to guarantee our work.
- My veterinarian uses another service – can I use you instead?
  - Absolutely. You are not required to use your vet’s contracted service nor can they force you to. Choose what type of service you want for your loved one after you have done your research and let your vet know.
- Can I witness my pet’s cremation?
  - If it is your wish or your practice, your cremation provider should allow you to witness (in a safe environment) your pet being placed in the cremation chamber. This gives many families served by Schoedinger Pet Services confidence in our ability to provide only *private cremations*.
- What decisions do I need to make right away?
  - You need to make decisions about cremation and keepsakes from your pet – that is it. It is not necessary to purchase all the memorial items you see at first glance; take your time to think about what you truly want for your loved one. What we want for you at Schoedinger Pets is to have the ability to make those choices in your own time – we will suggest options based on what you tell us to ensure we can assist you at a later time. The bottom line is this: once your pet is cremated, some keepsakes cannot be obtained. Let us know what you are thinking about so we can get what you need.
- Can I pre-plan services for my pet?
  - Sometimes people want to have things settled before the time comes. At Schoedinger Pets we can talk with you about the services you want and have things ready for you when you and your pet are ready.