

PLANNING YOUR MEMORIAL

This is a guideline only to assist you in the planning of your proposed memorial. We have left spaces to write your own thoughts and ideas if you wish in each section; this will make it easier to have clearer ideas when choosing the many options available.



If you have any questions at all, please feel free to contact any of our staff. We are only happy to help.
Amo – 06 8588082 (Waipukurau) ~ Sandy 06 876 4545 (Hastings) ~ Angie or Marie 06 835 755 (Napier)

TYPE OF MEMORIALS – COSTS

The selection of the right headstone that you have in mind can be reasonably complex and may involve some issues that will be beyond your control. This guideline will help you to make many decisions but in most cases, you will need to visit one of our showrooms and discuss your ideas with our staff, before you settle on your final selection.

Burial - Most public cemeteries are lawn cemeteries where the headstone is placed on an existing concrete beam at the head of the grave. Cemetery by-laws dictate the base and headstone dimensions, particularly the height of the headstone. As a guide, the most common size for an up-right lawn headstone is 600mmx450mmx75mm thick on a base measuring 915mm (width) x450mm (depth) x100mm (height). There is a by-law guide to memorial sizes etc. but each controlling Council has its own specifications. Granite is the preferred and in some cases, the only headstone material permitted. A permit is required before any memorial is erected in a public cemetery.

Private cemeteries are not governed by the same rules as apply above so generally you are able to put in any size and base that fits the plot.

Cremation – Most public cemeteries have at least two and up to five designated areas for ashes interment. Often each of these areas have different size/type by-law requirements. These vary from small plaques on existing walls or concrete beams or upright headstones on a matching granite base. How many sets of ashes that can be interred in one plot depend on the area/plot chosen. Please check where ashes are to be placed, before selecting a memorial.

Your Notes:

Which cemetery and plot details is the memorial to be placed in:

My Budget is approximately:

TYPE OF GRANITE

Granite – Is a very hard natural rock, which is sourced throughout the world. Granite can be polished to a highly reflective, mirror gloss finish, which is very resistant to weathering or lichen growth.

Colours – a range of colours are pictured, but the true beauty of the granite and colours are best viewed in person at one of our showrooms

Finish – The face of the memorial needs to be polished for the inscription to be done, if you prefer the unpolished look then we can install a plaque onto the face of the memorial or just leave a small area polished

for the inscription. The all polished memorial option gives a uniform finish and also inhibits the growth of moss and lichen as with rock finishes can do.

Your Notes:

Colour of granite preferred

Type of finish preferred:

SHAPE AND STYLE OF HEADSTONE

Shape - A selection of standard and designer options are included for you to consider. Generally the more shaping the more expensive the memorial. You are welcome to design your own but time and cost factors may not make this a feasible option. Here at Bay Headstones we carry a large range of memorials that can be purchased. Please take the time to look though and select which shape / colour you may like. We can order you in a memorial in any colour or shape you wish, but you need to allow at least 4 months.

Your Notes:

Preferred shape:

STYLE OF BASE AND ORNAMENTS

Bases – Headstones are nearly always mounted onto a base which lifts the headstone above the ground level of the concrete foundation – usually supplied in council cemeteries. The bases may be concrete plaster or granite (by laws give which is allowed and size for the relevant area). Our sets are sold with granite bases and are included in the price you see on the website. If you would like vases, then the base will have holes drilled into them to hold the council approved vases.

Ornaments / Adornments / Vases Bay Headstones stock a large range of porcelain flowers, vases and ornaments that can be used to enhance the memorial. There are a number of vase options and colour options, which our staff is happy to go over with you.

Photographs – We are able to offer a wonderful service for ceramic photographs in black & white, colour or Sepia, which can be restored, retouched, and any artwork that is required to make a very special photograph and come in a range of set sizes– a proof is supplied for approval before the ceramic is produced. They are permanent and offer a personal touch to the memorial.

Your Notes:

Vases required:

Number of vases:

Photograph required:

THE INSCRIPTION LAYOUT OF THE MEMORIAL

Layout - The basic layout of the memorial is completely up to you, but there are a number of factors that you should take into consideration, such as the shape of the stone and the additional information that may be added at a later date (is the memorial going to be used for another person in the future?). Details that usually required for a memorial are:

Full Name:

Date of Birth:

Date of Death:

Husband / Wife / Partners Name:

Children/s Name:

Other:

Our friendly and experienced staff are only too happy to help you with the layout and a proof will be provided after you order, to help get things started. We are happy to make changes to the proof, until you are happy with it – so don't worry about getting it perfect first time!

The Heading and Epitaph

Heading – Headings usually appear as an introduction at the top of the memorial.

Epitaphs – An epitaph, if wanted, appears at the bottom of the memorial or on the base

Lettering – The inscription is permanently sand blasted into the granite. The colour of the lettering is not so permanent and will need to be renovated from time to time. White and Silver lettering should last 5-10 years depending on environmental factors, and Gold is 24 carat gold leaf, which should not need attention for 10-15 years.

Fonts – There are a HUGE amount of fonts available. However, not all fonts are suitable for blasting onto granite and not all are suitable in all sizes. With this in mind, we find it is much easier for you to give us a description of the style of memorial that you have in mind for your loved one. For example, 'Mum liked pretty things' or 'Dad didn't like fussy stuff, he was very traditional' or 'Sarah was modern and funky'. All of this information tells us a lot and helps us to come up with a layout that really is in keeping with your loved one.

Artwork – Putting artwork onto the memorial is a great way to capture the personality of your loved one in a visual way. We have a huge selection of artwork available, which can be done in colour or in the same colour as the lettering. Association Logos, flowers, religious icons, all tell us more about the person

Heading:

Epitaph:

Lettering Colour:

Artwork:

INSTALLATION OF MEMORIAL

We have our expert staff to install your memorial locally or we can arrange for it to be installed anywhere in New Zealand. Alternatively we can supply the completed memorial to your nearest toll depot or it can be collected from our workshop – if it is going into a council cemetery you will need to arrange for your own permit and also some councils only allow monumental masons to install the memorial.

Questions

If you have any questions regarding a memorial, or comments relating to our website, please do not hesitate to contact any of our friendly team, we are all here to help and advise to create a fitting memorial for your loved one.