

**APPROXIMATE ANNUAL PET CARE COSTS\* 2000**

<b>DOGS: First Year</b>	<b>TOTAL \$980</b>
Food \$400 Distemper/parvovirus inoc. (4) \$60 Rabies inoculation (one year) \$20 Worm test and worming \$25 Spaying or neutering** \$65 Heartworm test/preventative \$50 Licensing \$10 Accessories (leash/collar/toys/etc.) \$100 Emergency veterinary care \$250	
<b>Each Succeeding Year</b>	<b>TOTAL \$825</b>
Food \$400 Distemper/parvovirus inoc. (booster) \$15 Rabies inoc. (1-yr., then 3-yr. booster) \$15 Worm recheck \$10 Heartworm test/preventative \$50 Licensing \$10 Accessories (leash/collar/toys/etc.) \$75 Emergency veterinary care \$250	
<b>CATS: First Year</b>	<b>TOTAL \$673</b>
Food \$280 Distemper inoculations \$30 Rabies inoculation (one year) \$20 Worm test and worming \$25 Spaying or neutering** \$48 Leukemia test and inoculation \$45 Accessories (collar/toys/etc.) \$75 Emergency veterinary care \$150	
<b>Each Succeeding Year</b>	<b>TOTAL \$540</b>
Food \$280 Distemper (booster) \$15 Rabies inoc. (1-yr., then 3-yr. booster) \$15 Worm recheck \$10 Leukemia inoc. \$20 Accessories (collar/toys/etc.) \$50 Emergency veterinary care \$150	

\*Cost may vary by veterinarian

\*\*Average rate at a participating veterinarian

The above costs do not include any adoption fee or the cost of purchasing the animal. Assuming the average life span of a dog or cat is ten years, the estimated cost of owning a dog for its lifetime is over \$8,400 and the estimated cost of owning a cat for its lifetime is over \$5,500.

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Owning a pet can be a wonderful experience; however, it requires responsibility and commitment from owners. Understanding these responsibilities is essential and acquiring a pet should always be a family decision. Research the types of pets and different breed characteristics (You should also familiarize yourself with the multiple breed characteristics in mixed breeds) to ensure that your new pet will fit in with your lifestyle. It is extremely important to think about whether you are willing to commit the time, effort and expense required for its proper care before you get your pet, not after it is in your home!

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