Paying for PETS



YOUR GUESS ACTUAL COST DIFFERENCE

INITIAL EXPENSES		
Adoption fee		
Initial medical exam		
Spaying or neutering		
Initial vaccinations		
Microchipping and/or ID tags		
Pet bed		
Carrying crate		
Food and water dishes		
Collar and leash		
Litter box		
Scratching post		
Brush and comb		
Training		
Pet deposit		
ANNUAL EXPENSES		
Pet license		
Food		
Litter		
Yearly veterinary visit		
Pet insurance		
Preventive medication (for fleas/ticks and heartworm)		
Toys		
Treats		
Grooming		
Pet sitting or pet boarding		
ADDITIONAL EXPENSES		
Safety gates and/or fencing		
Pet furniture		
Dental cleaning		
Ear cleaning		
Nail trimming		
Property damage (replacement)		
Specialty cleaning products		
Pet emergency fund		



CAN YOU AFFORD A PET?

Price out the first year of owning a cat or dog by filling out the chart to left.

First, take a guess at how much each item will cost you per year. Then research the actual prices online. Finally, calculate the difference between your guess and the actual cost.

- Did you mostly overestimate or mostly underestimate your pet's expenses?
- Which cost surprised you the most? Why?
- According to your chart, what is the total cost of taking care of your pet for the first year?
- What are some ways you could reduce the cost of owning a pet?

Note: Skip any chart items that don't apply to your pet.

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