

I'm not a bot



























Many families choose a favourite photograph for the cover, along with the person's full name, date of birth and death, and perhaps a short phrase like In Loving Memory or A Celebration of Life. Inside, the structure should be easy to follow. Use simple fonts and avoid overcrowding the pages. A 2-4 page folded leaflet is often enough for most services, depending on how many readings or songs are included. You might also want to include a brief biography or some words of thanks from the family. For printing, you can either ask your officiant or celebrant for help, if using one, use a local printer, or create a digital version to share online. Details and design choices When it comes to the physical details, there are a few extra design choices that can make a big difference, both practically and emotionally. Think about the texture and finish of the paper: Do you want something smooth and glossy, or would a more natural, textured paper feel more fitting? Some families choose recycled paper or minimalist digital formats for eco-conscious reasons—a great option if sustainability mattered to the person being remembered. Before printing the full batch, you can ask for a proof copy to check layout, clarity and colours. This can help avoid last-minute surprises and gives you a chance to test for accessibility, too. If any guests are partially sighted or elderly, you may choose to opt for larger print sizes, clear fonts, and good contrast between text and background. Little details like these can help everyone feel included and supported and they show care in the quietest of ways. How Aura can help with simple cremations and funeral planning Aura offers top-rated direct cremation services — simple, no-fuss funerals for people who prefer to keep things straightforward. Without the complexities of traditional funerals, families have the space to say goodbye in their own way. With both attended and unattended options available, direct cremation offers flexibility to suit different needs. Some families choose a quiet, unattended direct cremation, no formal service, just dignified care and return of the ashes. Others may prefer to be present for a simple goodbye at the crematorium. Either choice gives you space to plan a personal celebration of life later on — one that feels right, without the strain of time or tradition. It's a thoughtful, low-cost alternative that still honours the person with care, compassion, and respect. Aura also offers prepaid funeral plans, and support with every step of funeral planning, including our funeral arrangements checklist to help families stay organised. Aura is here to help Whether you're planning a traditional funeral, organising a memorial, or choosing a more modern direct cremation, what matters is honouring the person in a way that feels right. And if you're unsure where to begin, you're not alone. Aura is here to guide you gently, helping turn a time of loss into a chance to reflect, remember and celebrate. If you're in need of support, our team of experienced arrangers, known as Aura Angels, are just a call away. If you're looking to arrange a funeral or would like a loved one brought into our care, our phone lines are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. If you're looking to make plans for the future, our dedicated planning team is available Monday-Friday, 9.00-5.00pm. Do I need to make an order of service? Not necessarily. It's an optional element, but many families find it helpful for guiding the day and giving guests something to hold onto and reflect on later. Can I make it myself? Yes. Many people use simple templates or word processing tools to create a beautiful and personal programme. You can also ask your officiant, celebrant or a designer for help if you prefer something professional. What if no one wants to speak? That's completely fine. A celebrant, religious leader or close friend can read prepared words on your behalf. The service can also be shaped with readings, music, and moments of silence instead of spoken tributes. How long should the service be? Most funeral or memorial services last between 30-60 minutes, but there's no fixed rule. It depends on what you want to include and the tone of the gathering. Is it okay to include humour? Absolutely. A bit of lightness can offer relief and reflect the personality of the person being remembered. However, you may wish to be mindful to keep the tone gentle and respectful.