



WORTHINGTON
M O N U M E N T S

Buyer's Guide

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WorthingtonMonuments.com

CONSULTING A MONUMENT BUILDER & WHAT TO LOOK FOR

Purchasing a memorial is a major investment of time and money and should be undertaken with great thought and care. The Monument Builders of North America recommends careful and relaxed planning when purchasing a memorial.

Whether you are making immediate or pre-need arrangements for a funeral or purchasing cemetery property, you should know that you and your family ARE NOT obligated to purchase a monument from a funeral home or a cemetery. In fact, a good argument can be made to delay the purchase of a memorial, the one visual and lasting tribute, until other matters are complete.

Your local monument builder is a reliable source of information regarding the various regulations of the cemeteries in your area. Since cemeteries have regulations regarding the size and type of memorial in certain areas of the cemetery, it is wise to consult with a monument builder before you purchase your cemetery property.

Your wishes and a monument builder's suggestions will combine to help you decide on the appropriate text, floral, epitaphs and meaningful symbols for your memorial. Most monument builders will prepare drawings to help you visualize the finished memorial as well as to check for any possible errors before the final work is completed on the stone.

REASONS TO PURCHASE A PRE-NEED MONUMENT

Increasingly, people are choosing to purchase their own monument before the need arrives. By planning ahead, you can select the style, size and color you prefer. A personalized design, which you can help to create, can reflect your beliefs, values or whatever is meaningful to you. What do you want to tell future generations about yourself and your family? This is your opportunity to make your personal statement for history.

Additionally, by pre-planning, you can save money. Purchasing a monument before the need arises means that you are utilizing today's dollars. Like everything else, it will cost less now than in years to come. It is less traumatic and emotional to purchase a memorial in advance. You have the opportunity to discuss the purchase with all the family members. Most major purchases are completed with the interests of all members of the family. This is one of those major purchases.

CHOOSING A MONUMENT, STYLES, COST & WARRANTIES

Cemetery memorials range from flat, beveled or slant markers that lie on the ground to elaborate, multi-piece upright monuments. Where cemetery regulations allow, monuments may also include crosses, statues and flower vases.

Most monuments are made from granite because of its durability, its reasonable price and its availability in a wide range of colors, including gray, black, red, pink, brown, green, and blue. Marble is available in white and gray. Bronze is often used for flat markers and for embellishments to monuments.

Granite and marble come in different qualities, some of which may not be suitable for cemetery memorials. A reputable monument builder will be able to show you fine quality granites and marble that will accept different styles of lettering and design work. Be sure to look at quality, finish and design, as well as size, if you are comparing prices.

Your monument builder should have an extensive display of monuments. This allows you to see a variety of colors, shapes, and lettering styles that are available. Pictures or brochures do not always depict these important differences.

STYLES OF MONUMENTS

Upright monuments come in a wide variety of styles, shapes and sizes, providing a full range of creative and personalized works of art.

Slant and bevel markers are midway in height between flat markers and upright monuments. They come in single or double in size and can be personalized with symbols or inscriptions.

Flat markers can be personalized, but the design is naturally restricted by the smaller area. Because they lie flush with the ground, they often are hard to locate in the cemetery.

COST

Monuments and Markers are priced according to size, color of material used, design and installation cost, plus whatever applicable cemetery charges are involved. Prices can range from under \$1,000 for flat markers and simple upright monuments to \$10,000 and higher for more elaborate monuments. On the high end of the spectrum, large and impressive walk-in mausoleums can cost hundreds of thousands of dollars.



WARRANTIES

Most monument builders will warranty their finished product against defects in material, workmanship, and installation. Consult with your monument builder about his warranty.

Note: Many Home Insurance Policies will allow you to add a memorial/monument to your policy.

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT CEMETERIES

Cemeteries have different rules and regulations regarding monuments and markers. Before you buy a cemetery lot, ask what kind of monuments and markers are allowed. A monument builder is a good source of information on cemetery policies in your community. Some cemeteries, often called memorial parks, only allow flat markers. If your lot is in this type of cemetery, you will never be able to place a traditional upright monument there. Those cemeteries may have an upright section, also. They may impose restrictions on the size, which could severely limit your choice. When you purchase a cemetery lot, be sure to know if traditional upright monuments are allowed and if there are limitations on location and size. Many cemeteries charge a variety of fees for installation of the monument, perpetual care, maintenance, and other add-on services. Some cemeteries will tell a customer that they are the only ones who can install a monument, that installation costs are part of the lot price or that since your family member is buried in our cemetery that you have to purchase your monument from them. This is ILLEGAL. Ask questions before you buy a cemetery plot and be sure you receive satisfactory answers.

QUESTIONS? WE HAVE ANSWERS

Worthington Monuments, Inc. is a family owned and operated business by husband and wife Matt & Ryan Worthington. We possess a deep desire and commitment to make this, one of the most difficult purchases you will make, as smooth and positive as possible for you. We will walk you through each step of the process and are happy to answer any questions that you have. Call us at (817) 551-2800 or email us at

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This Buyer's Guide was originally posted on the website for the Monument Builders of North America, of which Worthington Monuments is a member

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Burleson Showroom & Manufacturing Facility

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Burleson, TX 76028
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Cleburne Showroom

130 S. Ridgeway Dr.
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Colleyville Showroom

4201 Colleyville Blvd
Colleyville, TX 76034
(817) 770-4434

Grand Prairie Showroom

(inside office at Southland Memorial Park Cemetery)
1204 SW 3rd Street
Grand Prairie, TX 75051
(972) 262-1765

Stephenville Showroom

(inside the main office at Erath Gardens of Memory Cemetery)
6811 S. Hwy. 377
Stephenville, TX 76446
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