



CATsNAP  
PO Box 456  
Savoy, IL 61874  
[www.catsnap.org](http://www.catsnap.org)

## THE COSTS OF HAVING A PET

SELECT ONE: DOG / CAT

1. How much do you think it costs for this pet's care for one year? Include food, vet visits, toys, etc. There are NO wrong answers; we want to see what your best guess is.

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2. Let's calculate food costs. A higher quality food keeps a pet healthier, so let's use estimates for good quality pet food.

CAT \$6.99 for 4 lbs  
DOG \$6.99 for 6 lbs

A cat eats about 4 lbs per month. A 15 to 20 lb dog will eat about 6 lbs per month. How much should you expect to spend for your pet's food in one year?

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3. A cat needs litter. If you selected a cat, you will need to purchase about 20 lbs per month at a cost of \$8.99. How much should you expect to spend for your cat's litter in one year? (Enter \$0 for dogs)

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4. Every pet must see the vet annually for a check-up and vaccinations. The cost for a vet visit is estimated at \$35. The cost for vaccinations for your cat or dog will cost about \$30. Dogs require heartworm medicine to keep them healthy. One monthly dose might cost about \$10 and must be given every month to ensure they are protected. Plus, pets can get sick and need to see the vet. You need to budget in \$150 additional per year for emergency or unforeseen illness. How much should you expect to spend for your pet's vet care in one year?

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5. Add lines 1 through 4. This is what it will probably cost you at a minimum for your new pet EVERY year.

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## THE COSTS OF HAVING A PET

### ANSWER KEY

1. (Varies)
2. \$83.88
3. \$107.88 for cats, \$0 for dogs
4. \$215 for cats; \$335 for dogs
5. \$406.76 for cats; \$418.88 for dogs