

PLACING ITEMS IN A COFFIN FOR CREMATION

When a funeral involves cremation, there are certain rules about the type of coffin used and what may be placed inside. These guidelines are in place to ensure every cremation is carried out safely, respectfully, and in accordance with environmental standards. Your funeral director will guide you through what is appropriate, but the following information may be helpful when considering personal items to include.

Suitable items

You are welcome to include small, personal touches that hold meaning, such as:

- Letters, cards, or drawings
- Photographs
- Flowers or small floral tributes
- Fabric items, such as a favourite scarf, handkerchief, or soft toy
- Religious or spiritual symbols made from wood, paper, or fabric

These items are safe and will remain with your loved one during the cremation.

Items that should not be placed in the coffin

Certain objects cannot be included, as they may cause damage to the cremation equipment or release harmful emissions. Please avoid placing:

- Battery-powered items (such as hearing aids, watches, or e-cigarettes)
- Glass, ceramics, or hard plastics
- Pressurised or sealed containers (for example, bottles or cans)
- Metal or metallic objects, including jewellery, tools, or ornaments
- Large quantities of synthetic materials (such as foam cushions or polyester fabrics)

If you're unsure about a particular item, please ask your funeral director, who will be happy to advise.

Coffin materials and fittings

Coffins and linings must meet environmental standards. Handles, nameplates, and other fittings should be made from approved, non-metallic materials. Your funeral director will ensure everything used is suitable.

Medical devices

For safety reasons, any pacemakers or similar implanted devices are removed by professionals before the cremation. You don't need to take any action regarding this — your funeral director will make the necessary arrangements.