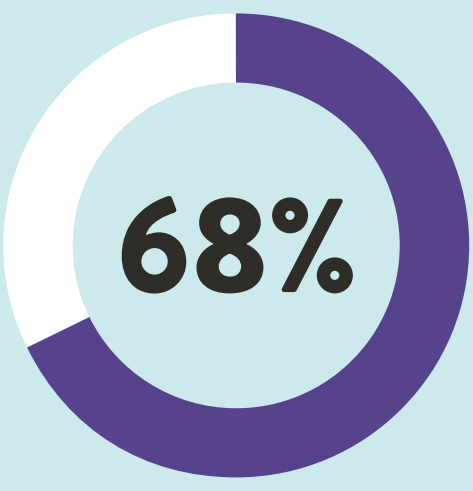
Paying for
PETS

IT'S A MONEY THING®

Can you afford A PET?

A pet's companionship is priceless, but its expenses add up fast. Like walking the dog or scooping out the litter box, **budgeting is a part of basic pet care.**

PET OWNERSHIP STATS



of US households own a pet

That equates to:



89 million dogs and



94 million cats



More than half of millennial pet owners **buy gifts** for their pets **once a month or more**

There are now **more pet-owning households** than households with children



PET EXPENSES



BASIC PET CARE
Food
Food and Water Dishes
Pet Bed
Toys and Treats
Collar and Leash
Travel Crate



FIRST-YEAR EXPENSES
Adoption Fee
Pet License
Medical Exam
Vaccination
Surgery



LIVING SPACE
Pet Deposit
Pet Furniture
Gates
Fencing
Clothing Repair
Furniture Damage
"Accidents"

MEDICAL EXPENSES
Veterinarian
Medical Emergency
Pet Insurance
Dental Care
Ear Care
Medication
Allergies





PET SERVICES
Grooming
Training
Dog Walkers
Pet Sitters
Kennels

BUDGETING FOR PET CARE

Preparing for a pet is like budgeting for any significant milestone: preparation is key



SET MONEY ASIDE MONTHLY
Estimate your monthly pet expenses (you can use the expenses listed in the section above as a starting point—make sure you factor in annual expenses as well). Budget for that amount as you would a monthly bill.



CREATE A PET EMERGENCY FUND
Pet owners are likely to incur at least one $2,000–$4,000 bill for emergency care at some point in their pet's lifetime. Create a separate fund for pet-related emergencies to protect your personal savings goals.

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FIRST CREDIT UNION

Sources: American Pet Products Association, American Veterinary Medical Association, Money Under 30, *New York Times*, Statista

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