



How Much Does Owning a Pet Actually Cost?

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By Cindy Leow

There are two kinds of pet lovers in the world: those with pets, and those who want pets. If you've always wanted one, it's important to know how much a pet costs. We don't mean just walking into a pet store and checking out the price tags. The initial cost of a pet is always clear from the get-go, but the running costs may not always be obvious.

So here we'd like to take a look at the actual running costs of owning and caring for a pet, month-to-month, so you know what you're really getting into before adopting or buying your own pet cat, dog, or hamster.

1. Food & Treats

Your local veterinarian will tell you that dogs eat an average of 7.5kg of food per month, while cats eat roughly 6.83kg per month, but this can vary based on the size of your pets. They'll need a combination of dry food, wet, canned food, as well as extra treats as incentive for house training. Hamsters are all about the same size but we'll include their food costs in here too of course.

2. Grooming

Shampooing your pets once a week is necessary for their hygiene as well as removing any ticks or fleas from its coat. While dogs love splashing around in a tub, do not EVER put a hamster into a pool of water. Simply use a toothbrush, spray some pet shampoo onto a toothbrush and lightly brush its fur coat.

