

## Pet Insurance

Most of us buy insurance to help us pay a large and unexpected bill for which we would not be able to pay for out-of-pocket. Pet insurance is no different.

So how do you decide if you should purchase pet insurance? If you are willing to spend a good amount of money on your pet in the event of an accident or severe illness, you should look into it. Pet insurance can allow you to afford major medical or surgical treatment for your seriously sick or injured pet. Your decision will also be based on your personal financial situation and what you can afford to pay for the insurance.

Most pet insurance companies allow you to customize your policy by selecting the amount of your deductible, reimbursement, and annual limit to find a premium that fits your budget. Also with pet insurance, you can continue with your current veterinarian and you don't have to worry if your veterinarian is "in network".

Picking a Pet Insurance Company:

1. Do you want Accident, Illness, and /or Preventive Coverage?
2. What is your budget?
3. What are the options for deductibles, reimbursement percentage and payout limits?
4. What is covered in the plan? Exam fees, chronic, hereditary, congenital conditions, and prescription drugs. These expenses can be a major part of your bill and can add up quickly.
5. How quickly do you get reimbursed once you file a claim? Most pet insurance companies will reimburse you (minus the deductible and copay percentage) after you have paid the veterinarian and submitted the claim to them. They will review and pay the agreed upon percentage of the bill for items that are covered by your policy. Turn around time for this varies from company to company.
6. Is the reimbursement a percentage of the veterinarian's bill or a set amount? Some companies reimburse you based on a percentage of the bill, often resulting in a higher payout. Some pet insurance companies limit your payout per item based on a benefit schedule.
7. Is the deductible per incident or annual? Plans with a per-incident deductible require you to pay a new deductible for each new condition. With an annual deductible, you only have to meet it once per year.
8. What is covered and what is not covered? Pre-existing conditions are usually not covered. Other conditions may not be covered or have limitations.
9. Look at the reviews left by online by policy holders.

It is best to get at least 3 quotes from different pet insurance companies. Determine which company best meets your needs.

Check out these websites for reviews and more information:

[petinsurancereview.com](http://petinsurancereview.com)

[petinsuranceeu.com](http://petinsuranceeu.com)

[petinsurance.lovepets.com](http://petinsurance.lovepets.com)

[consumersadvocate.com](http://consumersadvocate.com)

[petinsuranceguideus.com](http://petinsuranceguideus.com)

## Pet Insurance Companies

24PetWatch

AKC

ASPCA

Embrace

FIGO

Healthy Paws

Nationwide

PetFirst

Petplan

Pet Assure

Pets Best

Pet Premium

Trupanion