

Bronze Marker Guide

Cast bronze markers at Washington Memorial Park: the sizes allowed on each kind of grave, the granite or concrete base every one of them sits on, the government match for a veteran's husband or wife, and what each one costs.

Bronze Never Sits On Bare Lawn

Every bronze marker at Washington Memorial Park is mounted on a **granite or concrete foundation** that is a few inches larger than the bronze on every side. That base is what keeps the marker level as the ground settles, and it is what the mowers ride on.

The base is not an extra you decide on later. It is part of the marker and it is part of every price in this guide.

Most of our granite bases are Barrell Gray. Nearly all sections here require flush markers only, in bronze or granite.

SECTION 1

About Bronze Markers

Cast metal, set flush with the lawn, on a stone base



A cast bronze marker on its granite base. The stone border you can see around the bronze is the foundation, and it comes with the marker.

DESIGN EXAMPLE, COLDSPRING

A bronze marker is cast, not carved. The names, dates and any emblem are formed in the metal itself, then the raised letters are polished and the background is given its dark finish. Nothing is painted on, so there is nothing to fade or peel.

Bronze is the traditional memorial park look, and it is what most people picture when they picture a flat marker. It is also the material the government uses for veterans' markers, which is why the match in Section 4 exists.

We order bronze through **Matthews** and through **Coldspring**. Both have been making cemetery bronze for over a century, and both back it with a long warranty. I will tell you which one your marker is coming from when we write the order.

WHAT COMES WITH A BRONZE MARKER

- The cast bronze itself, with your wording
- The granite or concrete base under it
- Setting the base and mounting the marker
- A vase core on the sizes that offer one; the vase itself is priced separately

SECTION 2

Granite or Bronze

Both materials will outlast all of us, so the difference is what you can do with them. Granite gives you over twenty stone colors, ceramic photo portraits, diamond etching and carved scenes, and the marker is its own foundation. Bronze gives you the traditional cast look, the government match, emblems and vases cast into the metal, and the sculpted artwork of Expressions in Bronze, and it always sits on a granite or concrete base. Most families here choose granite for the personalization. If you want the bronze look, or you are matching a government marker already on the grave, bronze is the right answer and it is not a compromise.

SECTION 3

What Fits On Your Grave

The bronze sizes allowed here, and the base each one needs

What you can put on a grave depends on how many interment rights that grave carries and whether the marker spans one grave or two. These are the park's rules, and they are the same for everyone. Every measurement below is inches, marker first and then the base it is mounted on.

DRAWN TO SCALE, MARKER AND BASE

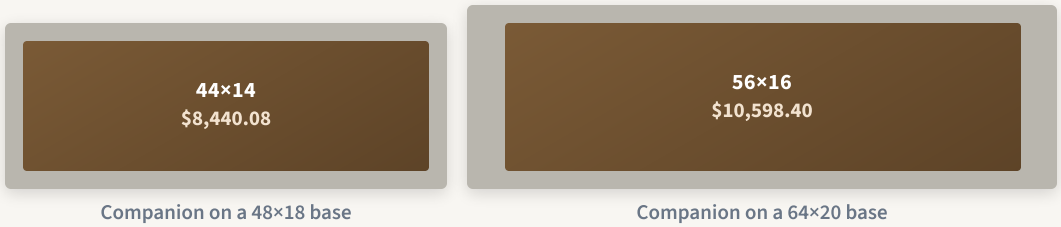
The gray block is the granite or concrete foundation. The bronze block inside it is the marker. Both are drawn at the same relative scale as the granite guide, so you can hold the two side by side.

 **Foundation** granite, usually Barrell Gray, or concrete  **Bronze** the marker itself

One grave, one interment right



One companion marker across two graves, both paid in full



The figure inside each marker is the **bronze, the base, the installation and Washington sales tax of 10.4%, all together**. There is nothing to add on top of it. The 32x72 ledger is not drawn here because it is six feet long and would not fit on the page at the same scale as the rest. Its price is in Section 5 with everything else.

One grave with one interment right. A 24x12 government bronze on a 28x16 granite or concrete base. In Vets and Vets North a 24x12 on a concrete base is the standard. Otherwise you can take a 24x14 single on a 28x18 Barrell Gray base, a 28x16 single on a concrete base unless you upgrade it to a 32x20, or a 32x72 single ledger on a 36x76 Barrell Gray base.

One grave with two interment rights. Two people in one grave, so there are more ways to do it. A 24×12 government bronze on a 28×16 Barrell Gray base at the head with the same again in the center. Two 24×12 government bronzes on one 28×38 Barrell Gray base. A 28×16 bronze companion on a concrete base. A 24×30 bronze companion, which is the half ledger in the price section, on a 28×34 Barrell Gray base. A 32×72 companion ledger on a 36×76 Barrell Gray base. Or a 16×8 or 18×10 second-right marker, which is only ever placed below the primary headstone.

One marker across two graves. Both spaces have to be paid in full first. A 44×14 bronze on a 48×18 Barrell Gray base, a 56×16 bronze on a 64×20 Barrell Gray base, or a 32×72 companion full ledger on a 36×76 Barrell Gray base. Two 24×12 government bronzes can also share one base: a 60×16 Barrell Gray with no vase, or a 64×20 Barrell Gray with a 6" vase hole.

Two more rules worth knowing. Markers in the Lake Urn Garden are 15×10 singles, except for the Williamsburg companion blocks that are already in place. The infant sections take an 18×10, and those are granite only, so there is no bronze option there.



A companion bronze. Two names, one casting, one base.

DESIGN EXAMPLE, MATTHEWS

SECTION 4

The Government Bronze Match

When a veteran already has a VA marker and the spouse wants the same one



A veteran's government-style bronze and the matching bronze for the spouse, set side by side.

DESIGN EXAMPLE, MATTHEWS

The VA gives every eligible veteran a bronze marker at no charge. It is 24" by 12", it has a set layout, and it only ever names the veteran. Washington Memorial Park does not charge for the marker, but it does have to sit on a foundation like any other bronze here, and somebody has to set it.

So there are two things families come to me for.

The VA sends the marker and we install it. You apply to the VA, they ship the bronze, and we pour the base and set it. That is **\$1,308.24 with tax.**

The husband or wife wants a marker that matches. The VA will not supply a second one, so we order a matching government-style 24×12 bronze through **Coldspring**, cast to the same size and the same layout, and mount it on a granite or concrete base beside the first. That is **\$3,521.76 with tax**, and that figure covers the bronze, the base, the installation and the sales tax.

Side by side they read as a pair, which is the whole point. There are also several veteran combinations on one or two spaces, with or without a vase, and those are in the first group of prices in Section 5.

BEFORE YOU APPLY TO THE VA

- Have the discharge paperwork, usually the DD-214, in hand
- Decide on the emblem of belief before the order goes in, because it is cast in
- Tell me if a spouse marker may follow later, so we set the first base with room for it

SECTION 5

Bronze Marker Pricing

Marker, base and installation, with the tax included

Every figure below covers the marker, the foundation under it, the installation and Washington sales tax of 10.4%, all together. It is the number you would actually pay.

GENERALLY

\$1,308–\$4,930

Where a particular one falls in that range depends on the size, the location and the options you choose. I would rather give you a real number than a guess. Call or email me and I will put an exact quote in writing for you, with no obligation.

Singles and companions below are the standard Matthews and Coldspring castings. A vase core is the fitting that lets a vase screw into the marker, and it is priced with the marker. The vase itself is separate: the bronze vases run about \$1,480 to \$1,595 with tax, and there is a simple gray zinc vase at about \$226.

GENERALLY

\$4,228–\$27,843

Where a particular one falls in that range depends on the size, the location and the options you choose. I would rather give you a real number than a guess. Call or email me and I will put an exact quote in writing for you, with no obligation.

The last group covers the urn gardens, the lawn crypts and a second name added to a grave that already has a marker on it.

GENERALLY

\$2,368–\$6,260

Where a particular one falls in that range depends on the size, the location and the options you choose. I would rather give you a real number than a guess. Call or email me and I will put an exact quote in writing for you, with no obligation.

SECTION 6

Expressions in Bronze

Matthews' personalized line, with artwork sculpted into the casting



*A scene sculpted into the face of the casting
rather than engraved on top of it.*

DESIGN EXAMPLE, MATTHEWS

Expressions in Bronze is Matthews' personalized line. Instead of choosing an emblem from a book, an artist sculpts your artwork and it is cast into the marker: a lake, a stand of trees, a boat, an instrument, whatever the person was known for. Because it is sculpted rather than applied, it has real depth to it, and it ages exactly the way the rest of the marker does.

It takes longer than a standard casting and it costs more, and I would rather you know both of those things up front. If you want to see what is possible, tell me what you have in mind and I will bring you proofs before anything is ordered.

GENERALLY

\$6,822–\$12,509

Where a particular one falls in that range depends on the size, the location and the options you choose. I would rather give you a real number than a guess. Call or email me and I will put an exact quote in writing for you, with no obligation.

Prices include the bronze, the foundation, the installation and Washington sales tax of 10.4%. Prices are subject to change without notice, and I will confirm today's figure in writing before you sign anything.

Tell me which grave and I will price it exactly

What fits depends on the grave and on how many interment rights it carries, so the fastest way to get a real number is to tell me the space. I will confirm the size that is allowed, the base it needs and the full price with tax, in writing, with no obligation.

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