

# Rātana - Plot Reservation and Grave Digging (Interment)

**There are two options for whānau to take care of grave digging (interment)**

1. Engage Council to provide full interment services at a cost of \$1,046.00
2. All interments are arranged by individual whānau under Council's approved best practice guidelines (available from the Council or Rātana Communal Board). The fee of \$559.00 paid for a plot includes ongoing plot maintenance (e.g. sinkage top-up) by the Rātana Communal Board. Allocation of plots outside business hours is managed by Rātana Community Board.

Adult – over 12 years (including plot reinstatement/maintenance)	\$559.00
Child – up to and including 12 years of age	Free
Stillborn	Free
Ash plot	\$162.00

## GRAVE DIGGING GUIDELINES FOR WHĀNAU

Tools: Shovels, measuring tape, mat or timber around grave, gumboots

### DIGGING THE GRAVE

1. Dig down to required depth ensuring clay is piled in ONE area. Measurements for burial – this is dependent on size of casket, if it is a standard size use the following:
  - Measurements for **standard** burial is a depth of 1.5mtrs, length is 2.2mtrs and width is 760mm.
  - Measurements for **extra depth** burial is a depth of 1.8mtrs, length is 2.2mtrs and width is 760mm.
2. Lay material (e.g. mats or timber) around edge of grave awaiting arrival.

### FILLING THE GRAVE

1. Clay soil must be used first ensuring it FILLS GAPS around edges of COFFIN particularly at head end (if this does not happen SINKAGE WILL occur).
2. At 2 to 3 intervals STOP and COMPACT clay in grave (walk over or use compact tool).
3. Compacting must happen consistently till clay is filled to just above GROUND LEVEL.

### MOUNDING

1. Put reserved topsoil, then grass on top of grave. By this time there should be a mound above ground level NO MORE THAN ½ metre high.
2. Flowers and ornaments can then be put on mound.
3. Removal of remaining dirt and cleanup work covered by above fee. Flowers after tangi will be removed after two weeks.

**NOTE:**

**PLEASE ENSURE ALL BORROWED EQUIPMENT IS RETURNED TO THE COMMUNITY OF RĀTANA.**

Date received: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Plot No Allocated: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_