



PawSympathy

Sympathy messages

Things to write inside, organized by who you're writing to.
49 messages across 9 sections

paw sympathy.com

General sympathy

Works for any audience and any kind of pet loss. Quiet, specific, and short.

- › I'm so sorry for the loss of your sweet companion. The shape of a missing pet stays in a house for a long time — and it should. Thinking of you.
- › There's no good way to say this — only that I'm holding you and your family in my thoughts this week, and that I wish things were different.
- › I know how much they meant to you, because I know how much you meant to them. Sending love.
- › Sending you a quiet hello on a hard day. Take all the time you need.
- › Some animals leave a kind of weight in the room. Yours did. Wishing you peace, and the slow return of the small good moments.
- › I'm sorry. Words feel small for this kind of loss — please let them do what they can.
- › Thinking of you, and remembering them with you. Whatever you need this week, just say.
- › May the memories — the silly ones, the warm ones, the just-ordinary daily ones — all stay clear.

For a close friend

More personal — for someone you'd visit, call, or sit with. Use these when reaching out feels right and a card alone isn't enough.

- › I know this loss isn't smaller because they had paws. They were family. I'm here for you, however you need me — call anytime, day or night.
- › I keep thinking about the way you talked about them. They had the best person. Sending you all my love this week.
- › You gave them such a good life. I hope the memories of that carry you through this part. Let me know when you're ready to talk.
- › I'm so sorry. I'd come over right now if it would help. I'll be by this weekend either way — coffee, walk, sitting quietly on your couch, whatever you need.
- › There was no one in the world who got it the way they did. I know. I'm thinking of you and trying to imagine the quiet in your house.
- › If you want to talk about them, I want to listen. Stories, photos, the silly things they did — I'm here for all of it.

For family — parent, sibling, partner

The animal was part of your shared life too. These read as from someone who knew the pet, not just the person.

- › Our house feels their absence too. Thinking of all of you this week, and remembering everything they brought to our family.
- › They had the best home and the longest possible love. I'm so sorry. We're all here for you.
- › I keep expecting to hear them at the door. I know you do too. Sending you a long hug from across the miles.
- › It hurts. There's no way around that part. But thank you for letting them be part of our family for as long as you did.



- › Thinking of [name] today, and of you. Take all the time you need with this — there's no schedule for it.

For a colleague or acquaintance

Warm but appropriately professional. For coworkers, neighbors, or someone you know more loosely.

- › I was so sorry to hear about your pet. Wishing you and your family some quiet days.
- › Thinking of you this week. Animals leave a real impression on a household, and I'm sorry yours is going through this.
- › Please take whatever time you need. I'm thinking of you.
- › I know how much they meant to you from the way you talked about them. Sending warm thoughts your way.
- › I'm sorry for your loss. If there's anything I can take off your plate this week, just let me know.

When the loss was sudden

An accident, a sudden illness, a goodbye that came faster than anyone was ready for. These avoid talking about long lives or peaceful exits.

- › There's no preparing for a goodbye that fast. I'm so sorry. Whenever you're ready to talk, I'm here.
- › I can't stop thinking about you. Sudden loss has its own kind of weight — please be gentle with yourself.



- › It's okay if today doesn't feel real yet. Take the time. I'll be here on the other side of it.
- › I'm sitting with the news of [name] and just wanted you to know I'm thinking of you. Nothing is required of you this week. Not even a reply.
- › What a beautiful, unexpected loss. They were so loved. I'm so sorry.

When the goodbye was long — illness, age

For an end-of-life decision, a long illness, or a slow decline. Acknowledges that the choice itself was an act of love.

- › Letting them go peacefully was the last gift you had to give. It was a hard one. I'm so proud of you for it.
- › You stayed with them every step of the way. They knew. Thinking of you in the quiet that comes after.
- › The decision you made was a kindness. I hope the days ahead bring you some peace, and the rest of the time some good memories.
- › There's no version of this that wasn't going to hurt — but you chose the version that hurt them least. Sending you all my love.
- › I know how much you watched and waited and weighed every small change. They had a person who was fully paying attention to the very end. That matters.



For an older pet who lived a long life

When the loss was expected because the pet was old. These lean into gratitude alongside the grief.

- What a long, well-loved life. Thank you for sharing them with all of us.
- Sixteen years (or however many) of being the most-loved creature in the room — that's a life. I'm so sorry, and so grateful for them.
- They had the kind of long life that comes from being deeply cared for. That doesn't make today easier, but it's true.
- An old dog is a particular kind of family. Sending love to your particular family today.
- All the years they got, they got because of you. I hope that knowledge sits warm next to the grief.

When the pet was young

A loss that came too soon. These don't try to find meaning in it — that's not what you can do for someone today.

- It isn't fair. There's no version of the words that makes it fair. I'm so sorry.
- They didn't have enough time, but they had the best time. You gave that to them. Sending all my love.
- I'm thinking of you and of them. Some losses don't have a tidy reason — please take all the time you need.
- Every moment they had, they had with someone who truly loved them. That matters even when it isn't enough.

Just one short line

When you don't trust yourself with a paragraph. These work as the entire inside-of-card message, or as the closing line under a longer one.

- > Thinking of you, and your sweet friend.
- > Holding your heart in mine.
- > What a good one they were.
- > Sending you the slow, steady kind of love.
- > I'm sorry. They were beautiful.
- > May the small moments stay clear.

