

The Perfect Memorial

*"Honoring the ones we love through
Timeless memorials"*



Woolsey Monument Company LLC

1200 N Main st - Hutchinson, KS 67501

6920 W Central – Wichita KS 67212

www.woolseymonumentco.com

316-648-5310

THE PERFECT MEMORIAL

Honoring the ones we love

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INTRODUCTION

CHOOSING HOW TO MEMORIALIZE YOUR LOVED ONE is an important and often-times difficult decision every memorialist understands well. For many people, the number of options and possibilities available in crafting the perfect memorial may either seem daunting or, if this is their first experience with memorials, they may not even realize the multitude of color, shape, and design options.

This booklet is here to guide you through the process of selecting a memorial for your loved one. One essential principle to keep in mind: never rush your decision. A granite memorial is a lasting tribute, and making decisions under pressure of a deadline or external influence often leads to outcomes that may not fully meet your expectations. Take your time to ensure the memorial reflects your vision.

What you should know about GRANITE

Throughout history, mankind has memorialized those whom we've loved and respected. This tradition developed not only as a means to pay our respects, but to record their history and honor their accomplishments so future generations would know who they were. Even the word monument comes from the Latin word "monere," meaning "to remind". The creation and placing of monuments, even if only a pile of rocks, has been one of mankind's oldest traditions.

Many different types of materials have been used over the centuries to memorialize lost loved ones, but the only material that can stand the test of time is rock. Today the most popular monument material is Granite.

There is no other natural stone used for commercial purposes that is harder or more difficult to break than granite.

And here's why:

- Granite is well known for its ability to resist erosion and its durability to withstand the elements in any environment.
- Granite comes in such a wide range of colors that no other stone can match its natural beauty when polished.
- Granite's variety of colors and versatility allow for unlimited design options and the use of different techniques to produce different textures and looks makes granite the perfect medium for memorializing someone we loved.

NOTE: Not all granite is classified by the U.S. Bureau of Mines as suitable for "monumental stone." According to the Bureau's standards for "Class 1" granite's, they must meet exacting requirements such as uniform texture and color, freedom from flaws and general suitability for polishing and carving as well as resistance to weathering.

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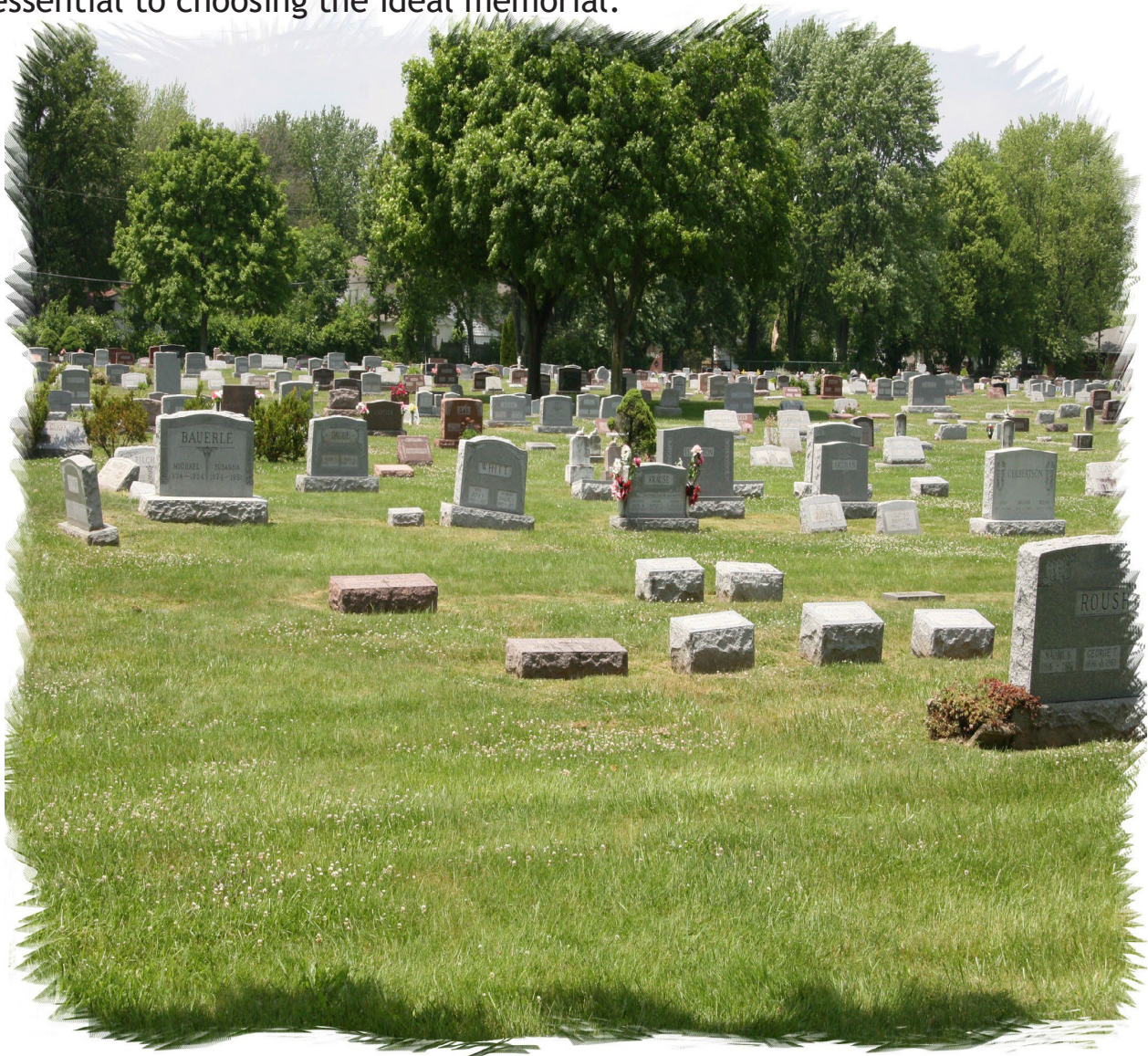
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Step 1: UNDERSTAND THE CEMETERY REGULATIONS

When selecting a memorial, the first and most important step is understanding the cemetery's rules and regulations. Just like homeowner associations, cemeteries often have guidelines regarding the style and size of memorials allowed on their grounds. Some may only permit flat lawn markers, while others require a minimum number of plots based on the base width, and some may impose height restrictions.

Although your local monument dealer is likely familiar with these rules, it is crucial for you to have a clear understanding of your plot's dimensions and any restrictions the cemetery might have.

Being aware of the cemetery's size, shape, and style limitations is essential to choosing the ideal memorial.



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Step 2: SINGLE - or - COMPANION

Now that there is a clear understanding of what can and cannot be placed in the cemetery, the next choice is usually whether the memorial will be for an individual or will represent a married couple or even a family. The constraining factor in this is typically the width of the plot/plots and therefore the base width of the memorial(s).

Families may have 4-6 plots whereby individual stones may memorialize each person, or it may be their desire to celebrate the family as a unit and collectively erect a single large monument honoring that relationship.



Above: Companion Marker



Above: Single Marker



Left: Companion Marker Family of Four



Above: Single Marker



Above: Companion Marker

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Step 3: UPRIGHTS - or - FLAT GRASS MARKERS

Should your cemetery place no height restrictions on upright monuments you now have the choice of memorializing anywhere from 6 inches in height (called a BEVEL) all the way up to a sky-scraping obelisk. Again, the main restricting factor, outside of budget, will most likely be the width of the plot(s) which will determine the width of the base on which most uprights depend.

Grass markers can still be adorned with images, laser etchings, and decorative artwork, but upright stones will offer a far greater opportunity for variation and creativity.



Above: Upright Monument

Stacked Images - Top & Middle: Bevels
Stacked Images - Bottom: Grass Marker

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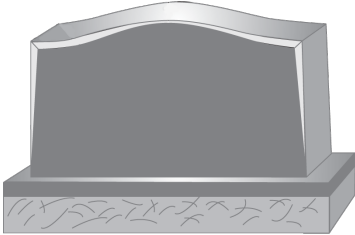
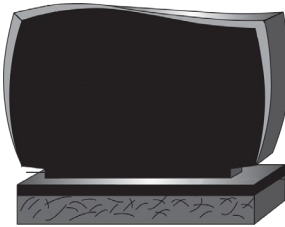
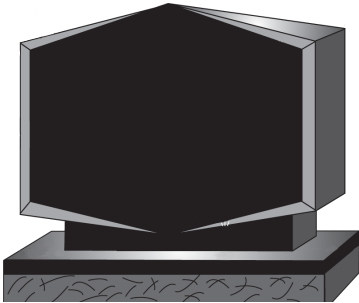
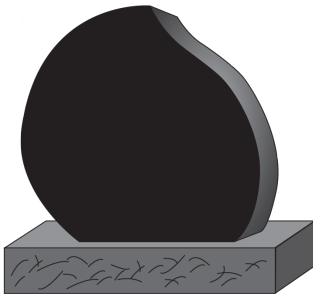
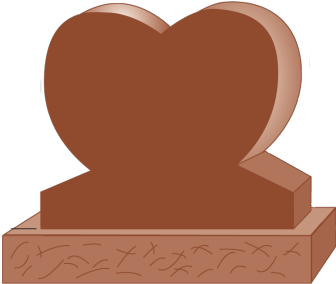

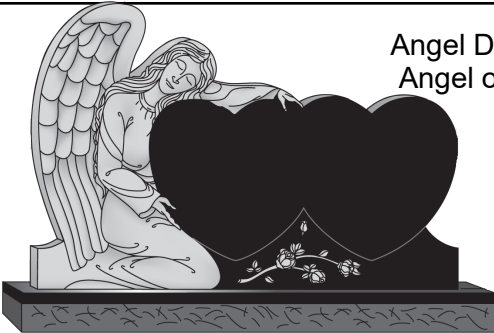
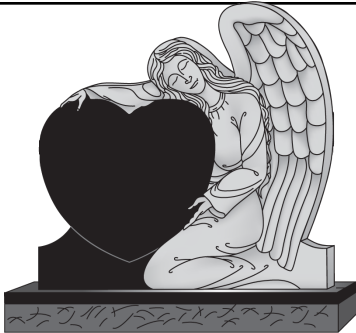
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Step 4: SHAPES

Upright memorials come in a wide variety of shapes. Perhaps more than you ever expected. From traditional serp tops and round tops to custom shapes you imagined yourself. Want a memorial in the shape of your native state? It can be done. In the shape of a cowboy boot, Lego block, giant book? Imagination is the primary limitation when it comes to shape.

The following represents some of the most popular shapes.

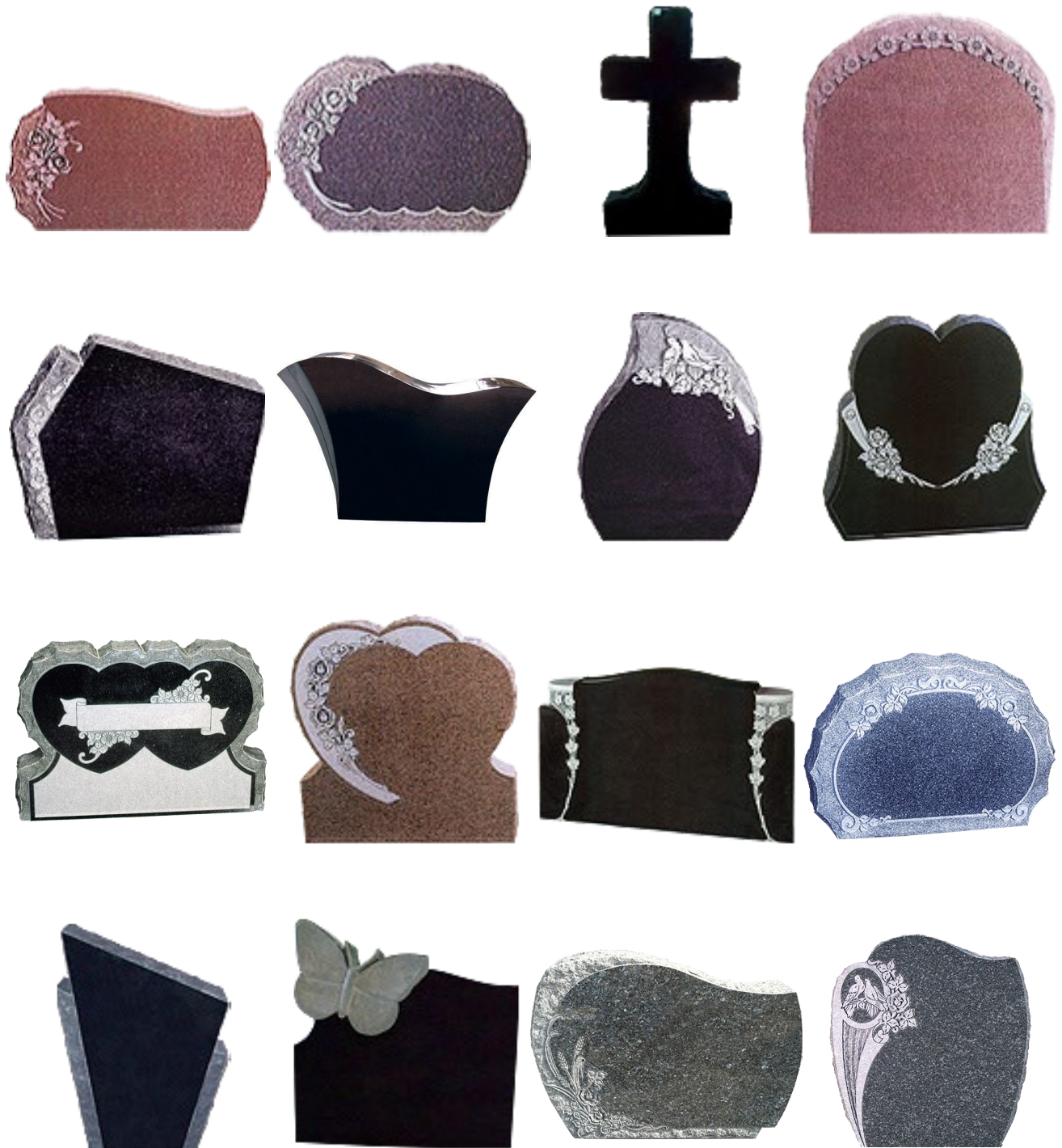
 <p>Serp Top with Front Changers</p>	 <p>French curve</p>
 <p>Roof Top</p>	 <p>Tear Drop</p>
 <p>Single Heart</p>	 <p>Double Heart</p>
 <p>Angel Double Heart Angel on Left Side</p>	 <p>Angel Single Heart Angel on Right Side</p>

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MORE POPULAR SHAPES - SELECT SERIES



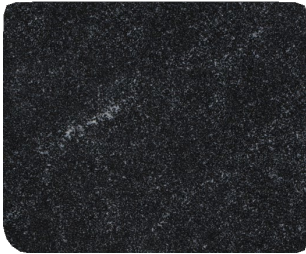
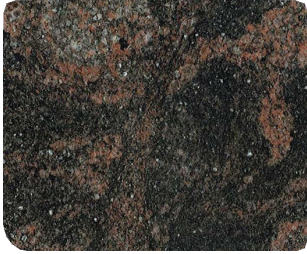
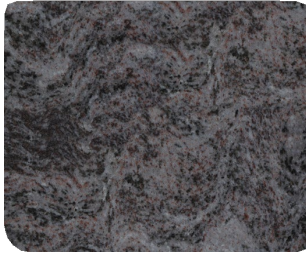
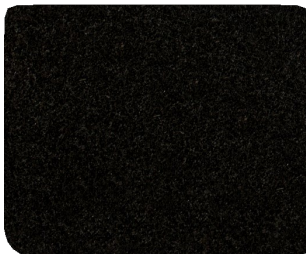
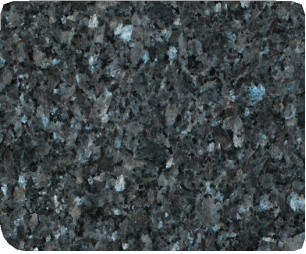
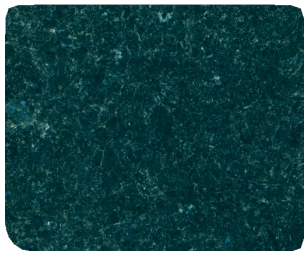



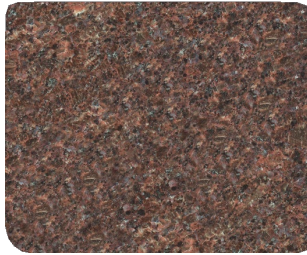





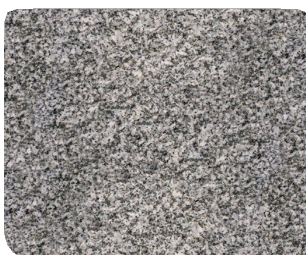


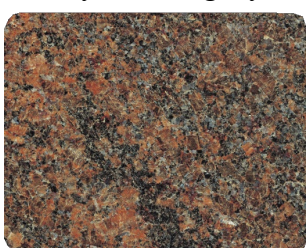

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Step: 5: COLORS

Literally dozens of colors to choose from, mined from all over the world. Here are some of the most popular. Please keep in mind that granite is a natural stone and colors will vary.

American Black 	Autumn Mist 	Bahama Blue 	Black Ultimate 
Blue Pearl 	Canadian Green 	Canadian Mahogany 	Canadian Pink 
Colonial Rose 	Dakota Mahogany 	Georgia Blue 	India Red 
Mill Lane 	Missouri Red 	Moonlight Grey 	Newbury Grey 
Paradiso 	Pink Pearl 	Royal Mahogany 	Wausau Red 

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Step 6: FINISHES

There are 3 primary finishes to a granite memorial.



Choose from a variety of "finishes".

SAWN

The stone, when cut to size results in a "sawn sides" finish which as you might expect is little more than the smooth surface of the granite itself.

POLISHED

Granite surfaces can be "polished" into a smooth, glassy finish which lends to a very attractive refined appearance. Oftentimes, depending on the color of the granite, the polish will cause the sun to reflect and shimmer off the monument.

ROCK PITCHED

Chiseled by hand to give a more balanced "natural" finish to the stone. Although rough, there is an aesthetic symmetry to sides and a definite unmatched uniqueness to the monument.

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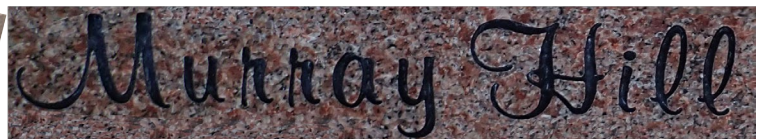
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DESIGN ELEMENTS

FONTS

There are 2 primary elements to consider when choosing your fonts. The first is the style of font itself, and the second is the font finish. Here is a list of some of the most popular memorial fonts, but original fonts can be created if that is something you would choose to have.

GOVERNMENT
GOUDY-BOLD
CONDENSED ROMAN
MODIFIED ROMAN
TIMES NEW ROMAN
TIMES NEW ROMAN ITALIC
OPTIMA
VERMARCO
ZAPF CHANCERY



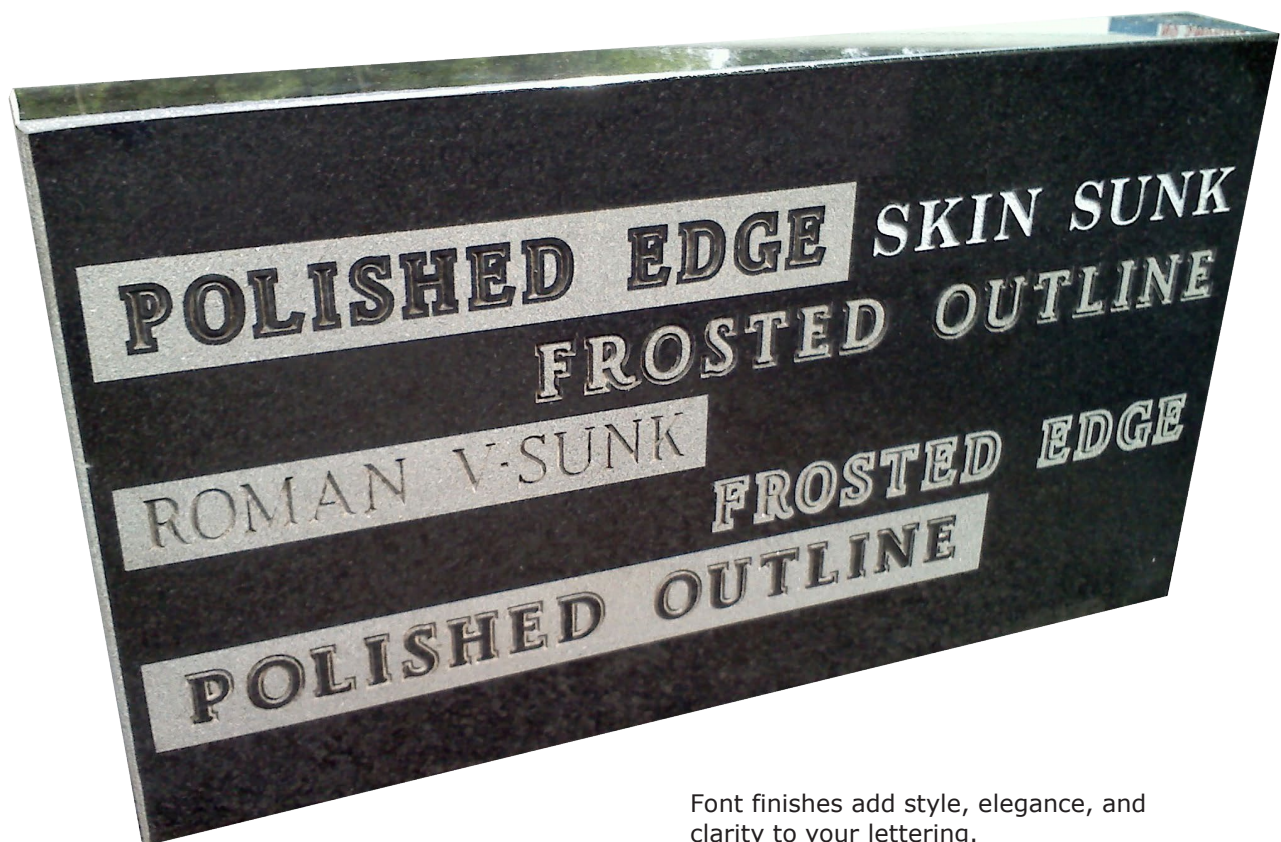
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FONT FINISHES

It may be necessary to see actual examples to clearly understand the differences among the various font finishing style. Here are a few of the most popular.



Font finishes add style, elegance, and clarity to your lettering.

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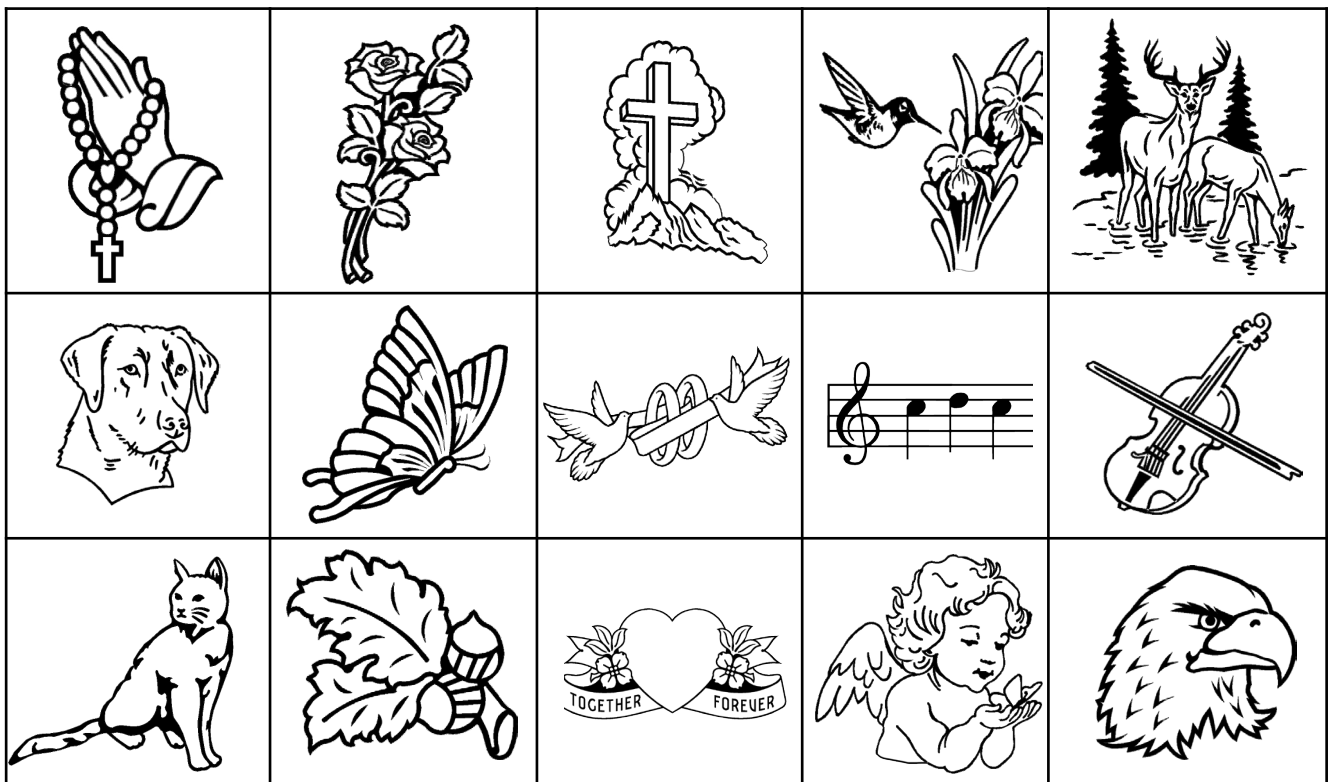
LITHO TINT

For greater contrast between lettering, carvings and the surrounding stone, there is a process called tinting, which is similar to painting the stone with a silver, black, gold, tint.



SAND-CARVED ARTWORK

Most Memorialists have catalogs of hundreds if not thousands of different artworks that can be carved into the stone. From nature settings, to hobbies, to military insignia, trade emblems, religious symbols, animals, vehicles and more... There is bound to be a perfect graphic to honor your loved one. Here are just a tiny representation of what can be done.



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CERAMIC TILES

Images can be inset into the memorial on durable, non-fading ceramic tiles.



LASER ETCHINGS

A fantastic alternative to sand-carved memorials are laser etchings on black granite. Choose an image from an extensive library or have a custom setting created for you.



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EPITAPHS

Did your loved one have a favorite biblical verse, stanza of poetry, or song lyric? Did they have a catch-phrase that all who knew them would attribute as their motto? Not all memorials bear epitaphs... but in choosing the perfect monument for your loved one it may be an absolute necessity.

Some ideas follow:

Not Lost To Memory. Not Lost To Love. But Gone To Our Father's House Above.

Step Softly, An Angel Lies Here.

Your Love Will Light My Way: Your Memory Will Forever Be With Me.

To Live In Hearts, We Leave Behind - Is Not To Die.

Those Who Knew Him Could Not Help But Love Him.

God Grant Him Eternal Rest.

Life's Duty Finished,

She Sweetly Rests

Blessed Are The Pure Of Heart, For They Shall See God

I Have Fought The Good Fight, I Have Finished The Course, I Have Kept The Faith

Just Resting... Until We Meet Again

Got 'Er Done!

I'd Rather Be (insert hobby)

You Ought To See The View From Up Here!

In The Arms Of Angels

Live * Laugh * Love

We Lived Life To The Fullest With No Regrets

What A Beautiful Difference One Life Made

Earth Has No Sorrow Heaven Cannot Heal

I'm Home Again...Waiting For Y'all

If It Takes Forever, I Will Wait For You

Godspeed My Love

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IDEA GENERATOR:

Step 1: Cemetery

Name	Phone #
Regulations	
Fees	

Step 2: Who and Where

Single	Companion
Orientation	North <input type="checkbox"/> South <input type="checkbox"/> East <input type="checkbox"/> West <input type="checkbox"/> What side?
Are you on the left or right?	

Step 3: Shape of Stone

Are there regulations and guidelines you must follow? If not what shapes interest you?

Is there a family stone or stones that you will try to match?

Step 4: Color

There are many to chose from. It is your preference and cost that will determine what color you end up chosing. If you are in a cemetery, look around and see what you might like.

Take Pictures:

Step 5: Design

While you are looking around at stones, are there any with designs you like on them?

Will you try to match a loved one? If so, take pictures and note where in the cemetery the stone is located. This will help your memorialist when it comes time to produce the monument.

About my loved one:

What were they passionate about:

What would they most liked to be remembered for:

Career / Hobbies / Military Service / Civic Volunteer:

Favorite Saying:

Notes and Questions:

[illegible]

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