

# Ca-nine to five: One in five workplaces allow pets in the office

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- *New research from online job board showed furry benefits - easing employee stress and increasing productivity*
- *Clear "gender pet gap" is evident, with 12% of male workers complaining about pets compared to only 1% of women*
- *35% of professionals believe a pet in the workplace helps ease stress*



According to new research, one-fifth of workplaces now allow employees to bring pets into the office, yet a similar proportion (16%) of workers have complained about the furry companions.

The survey by online job board [CV-Library](#) found that when it comes to the personal effect of animals in the workplace, there is clear evidence of a "gender pet gap". According to the data:

- Nearly half (46%) of women believe that having a pet at work eases stress and helps relaxation, compared to 29% of men
- 21% of women believes it makes them feel more friendly or approachable, compared to 14% of men
- 40% of men accuse pets of being distracting in the workplace, in contrast to 30% of women
- Nearly one-fifth of men (19%) go as far to call pets annoying in the workplace

The result of the "gender pet gap" led to a shocking 12% of men admitting to complaining about pets at work, in stark contrast to virtually no female complaints (1%).



In the eternal battle between cats and dogs, canines rule the workplace - making up 87% of all “professional” pets. Cats are clearly an unpopular option at work with only 5% admitting to having a feline in the workplace, and rabbits coming in third with 2%.

One in five workplaces allow pets in the office, with 7% confirming that they bring their furry friend along with them. A further 14% claim that while it is allowed, no one actually does it and it appears that Scotland is a nation divided on the issue as 37% believe the presence of a pet is a distraction to them while 35% feel that it makes them happy and eases their stress.

In general, nearly half of workers would like to see more workplaces allowing pets, but 20% suggest that strict policies from HR should be in place.

With bringing animals into the office becoming a growing trend, employers should sit up and take notice. 28% of respondents suggested that they’d be more likely to apply for a job if they have, or were allowed to bring in, furry friends in their working environment.

Lee Biggins, founder and managing director of CV-Library comments: *“With one in two households owning a pet, it’s clear to see the attraction and convenience of bringing them with you to work.”*

*“Our new research shines a light on the latest HR trend that many businesses are implementing to stand out from the crowd and attract the very best recruits. It seems to be working, with women being more favorable to the trend. As long as clear protocols are in place for pet ownership, it is set to have a positive benefit to employees and those around them.”*

## About CV-Library:

CV-Library is one of the UK’s largest online job sites and attracts over 4.3 million unique job seekers every month. Founded by Lee Biggins in 2000, CV-Library is the UK’s leading independent online job board with a database of over 12 million CVs.

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