



## **Pets at Home <<STORE NAME>> is groomed for success**

### **Retailer Recruiting 150 Groomers A Year**

Pets at Home <<STORE NAME>> is set to play a key part in the retailer's ambitious plans to recruit more than 150 pet groomers this year.

As part of the Groom Room's national recruitment drive, Pets at Home <<STORE NAME>> has just announced it is looking to hire a <<VACANCY>>, with many more positions likely to follow.

After opening 25 Groom Rooms in its stores in 2012, there are currently 87 outlets in the UK, with plans to open an additional 30 this year.

The Groom Room at Pets at Home provides a variety of services for dogs and cats such as baths and blowdrys, microchipping, styling, full grooming, puppy grooming and nail clipping.

The Groom Room at Pets at Home offers some of the best career opportunities in retail, continuously investing in the development of its employees and encouraging them to take advantage of a wide variety of training programmes and qualifications.

Nikki Keohane, a Groom Room salon manager, said: "I'd been working in admin but deep down I knew I always wanted to work with animals. One day I just decided to take the plunge and go for it. I did a local grooming training course and then applied at my local Pets at Home store to work in their Groom Room and I haven't looked back!"

Nikki, who is 23, added: "No two days are ever the same in my job which is why I love it! I start at 9am and there's a steady flow of dogs right through the day. We bath them, prep them, clip their nails, and give them a haircut, even just a trim around the eyes.

"When a dog comes in to the salon in a particularly bad state; matted hair, long nails etc. it can be quite hard to see. But then in a short space of time we can completely clean them up and practically

give them a new lease of life - they start acting like a puppy again! Even a simple trim around the eyes can be so effective and seeing the owner's reaction when we've finished is priceless."

<<STORE MANAGER NAME, store manager at Pets at Home <<STORE NAME>>, said: "The Groom Room is a key focus for Pets at Home in its recruitment plans for the year, as we seek people who are passionate, professional and committed to providing a positively outstanding service for our customers.

"The Groom Room here at <<STORE NAME>> is such a fun place to work and we really encourage everyone to enjoy their roles, feel engaged and recognised for their individual contributions. We strive to provide our colleagues with ongoing training and development for a long-term career in grooming."

Last year groomers from The Groom Room at Pets at Home celebrated various awards at the British Dog Grooming Championships 2012. Accolades included first prize in the experienced in the gun dog handstrip and clip class.

Founded in 1991, Pets at Home currently employs more than 5,000 people and was named number one in the Sunday Times Top 25 Best Companies to work for in 2013. It puts animal welfare at the heart of its business, which is why it believes in employing pet lovers to serve pet lovers – 92% of Pets at Home employees nationwide own a pet.

#### **Top Tips for Potential Groomers:**

1. Practice makes perfect: Practice washing and styling your own pets, as well as your friends' and family's dogs as much as possible
2. Watch the experts: Attend as many dog shows and grooming events as you can to get an understanding of the industry
3. Listen and learn: Speak to professional groomers about what their normal working day entails and the pros and cons to the job
4. Read all about it: Do as much research as you can and make sure grooming really is the industry for you
5. Apply online at [www.petsathomejobs.com](http://www.petsathomejobs.com) or ask in store at the Groom Room in Pets at Home <<STORE NAME>>

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For further information, additional case studies, or a photo opportunity, please contact the Pets at Home press office on 0161 236 2277 or email [prpets@havasww.com](mailto:prpets@havasww.com)

**Notes to editors**

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**Pets at Home** offers great products, tips and advice to keep your pet happy and healthy. From specialist pet food to toys and training aids, there is everything a pet owner could wish for and more.

There are more than 340 Pets at Home stores across the UK. Log onto [www.petsathome.com](http://www.petsathome.com) to find your nearest store and for further information

Pets at Home are proud winners of The Sunday Times Top 25 Best Big Companies to Work for in 2013.