Pros and Cons of Bringing Your Pet to Work

Pet-friendly workplaces are becoming increasingly common in today’s business culture. Google, Amazon, Ben & Jerry’s, Etsy, and many other large companies allow their employees to bring pets to work.

Pros of Pets in the Workplace

Having pets in the office has been shown to reduce stress and make employees feel more relaxed and comfortable. A pet-friendly workplace tends to increase employee satisfaction and to improve morale. Pets are also a point of common interest that can help to promote an atmosphere of teamwork and communication—they are a great vehicle for social interaction.

Allowing owners to bring their pets to work also provides a significant financial benefit—it eliminates the additional costs of doggie day care or dog walking services for employees who work long hours or commute a significant distance from their home each day.

Employees of pet-friendly businesses tend to work longer hours and have fewer absences.

Pets in the Workplace: cons

Pets can certainly be a distraction for both the owner and their neighboring co-workers. A dog will need to go outside for a few walks, and there could be noise issues from barking or whining. Pets also can draw small crowds of employees seeking entertainment, when those employees should be at their desks working.

Not every employee can be around animals due to allergies, which for some individuals can be quite severe. Others may have deeply ingrained phobias about being around certain types of animals.

Pets can cause damage to office equipment by having occasional accidents on the carpet or chewing the furniture.

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