

# PAWJECT RUNWAY

*Virtual event encouraging guests to make a look for their pet that is shared in a video fashion show format. Guests send photos or short videos. Can also offer as an in-Person maker event for dogs and take photos for the virtual runway.*

**Advance Planning:** Create graphics & a slide deck for the virtual show. If planning an in person maker portion gather supplies for garment construction.

**Marketing:** in-house and on Social media.

**Staff needed:** 1-2

**Space needed:** None if virtual, any room or space with a door for off leash models.

**Event Activities:** Encourage maker activities for garment construction, sharing all types of pets

**Timeframe:** 10 hours for putting together virtual show presentation video for in person – 2-3 hours for garment construction.

**Materials:** cardboard boxes of multiple sizes, decorative fabrics, embellishments, adhesives (glue, velcro, duck tape) sewing supplies.

**Attendance:** 8-30 depending on participation

**Cost:** \$0-\$60 for purchase of materials.

**Advice from our experience:**

- October is National Adopt a Shelter Dog Month and April 30 is National Adopt a shelter pet day.
- Contact local shelter and PD or S&R to highlight shelter pets and working dogs.
- In-person maker event should have at least 2 humans per dog model. One to construct and one to attend to the dog.
  - Got discounted remnants & embellishments from fabric store to cut costs.
  - Provide non traditional materials like cardboard and foam.
- Allow any look to participate but encourage home made.
- Encourage all types of pets participate in the virtual runway.

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# BECOMING A PET FRIENDLY LIBRARY

Engage all staff in the conversation, let local officials and your public know ahead of the change and get legal advice on applicable ordinances. Trust pet parents to know what is best for their pets and be respectful of your space. Have a policy and put it in writing. Start small and ease into the choice. Do what works for your library.

## PROS

- Reduces anxiety and stress and can promote positive mental health.
- Reduces incidents of animals left in cars
- Has positive response from community
- Problem patrons become less problematic
- Cuts down on absenteeism of employees

## CONS

- Liability from
  - Property damage
  - Bites
  - Accidents
  - Personal injury
- Allergies
- Phobias
- Standing Policies or Rules

**Partial solution: Some people are allergic or have a phobia of animals. Be ready to ask the customer with a pet to come back at a later time when issues are brought to your attention.**

## Further Reading:

<https://www.uschamber.com/co/run/human-resources/allowing-pets-at-work-pros-and-cons>

<https://www.business.com/articles/pets-in-the-workplace-is-it-a-good-or-bad-idea/>

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7824880/>

<https://www.iii.org/fact-statistic/facts-statistics-pet-ownership-and-insurance>

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/01492063231191090?journalCode=joma>

(paywalled)

<https://hbr.org/2023/11/research-the-benefits-of-a-pet-friendly-workplace>

Pflugerville Public Library Policies (Pet policy section 5.2)

<https://library.pflugervilletx.gov/my-library/about-the-library/policies>

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