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"People are increasingly treating their pets as humans. They want their pets to feel cared-for, comfortable and mentally stimulated. So there is driving demand for added-value products, often mirroring mainstream human styling and healthcare trends. As a result people are prepared to pay more for their petcare products and to replace them more often."

- Jane Westgarth, Senior Market Analyst

This report looks at the following areas:

- · Interest in monitoring pet activity levels
- · Remote interaction with pets
- · Will online trading for pet accessories keep growing?

People love their pets and many treat them as part of the family, effectively treating their animals as humans. As a result there is a growing market for toys, stylish accessories and pet beds/housing with added value. In addition, the desire to occupy and 'treat' pets is opening up more opportunities for toys and games including technical ones.

Pet health is also high on the agenda for pet owners and there is a growing market for petcare products from health supplements to shampoos. Again, many product developments are reflecting human trends so we are seeing ingredients such as tea tree oil, and niche product developments including supplements for ageing joints.

The market for petcare products is robust and performs well, even during an economic downturn, because most pet owners are unwilling to cut back or compromise when it comes to looking after their pets. But, as consumer spending power picks up, we expect pet owners to spend more, trading up for added value products.

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This report is part of a series of reports, produced to provide you with a more holistic view of this market



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Table of Contents

Overview

What you need to know

Products covered in this report

Executive Summary

Owners increasingly indulging their pets

Figure 1: Consumer spend on petcare, 2010-20

Diverse market catering for a range of needs

Figure 2: Market for pet care and accessories, by segment, 2015 (est)

Pets at Home dominates pet accessories retailing

Growth of buying online

Ocado and Waitrose build web presence

Figure 3: Distribution of pet accessories, by retailer, 2015 (est)

Fragmented supply of brands and products

85% of pet owners bought pet accessories in the last year

Figure 4: Purchases of pet products, December 2012 and April 2015

Figure 5: Shopped in-store or online for pet accessories, any, April 2015

People use a wide spread of retailers

Figure 6: Retailers used for pet accessories, any purchases, April 2015

People are motivated by great choice and competitive prices

Figure 7: Factors that influence choice of retailer for pet accessories, April 2015

Technical products – Yes please

Figure 8: Interest in tech products for pets, April 2015

Issues and Insights

Interest in monitoring pet activity levels

The facts

The implications

Remote interaction with pets

The facts

The implications

Will online trading for pet accessories keep growing?

The facts

The implications

The Market - What You Need to Know

Market to grow 3.3% in 2015

Comment on the forecast

Pet health accounts for 23%



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Basics are the most price-sensitive

Pets at Home dominates with 39% market share

Dogs and cats are the nation's most popular pets

Rise in rented dwellings could suppress pet ownership

Market Size and Forecast

Humanisation of pets spurs market growth

Figure 9: Consumer spend on petcare accessories, 2012-15

Figure 10: Consumer spend on petcare accessories, 2010-20

Figure 11: Consumer spend on petcare accessories, 2010-20

Market Segmentation

Figure 12: Market for petcare and accessories, by segment, 2015 (est)

Pet beds and cages benefit from styling and bigger sizes

Figure 13: Market for pet beds and housing, by segment, 2015 (est)

Innovative products for pet feeding

Sundries dominated by cat litter

Figure 14: Market for pet sundries, by segment, 2015 (est)

Stylish clothes, collars, leads and harnesses

Figure 15: Market for apparel, collars and leads, by segment, 2015 (est)

Low cost imports drive volume for toys

Mental stimulation for pets

Cats need to scratch

Figure 16: Market for dog and cat toys, by segment, 2015 (est)

A fashion for fish

Pet health

Flea and worm treatments boosted by OTC products

Awareness of dental care growing

Supplements £37 million

Toiletries

Figure 17: Market for pet healthcare, by segment, 2015 (est)

Market Drivers

Stable pet population

Figure 18: UK pet population, by type (excluding fish), 2014

Rise in private renting suppresses pet ownership

Figure 19: Current housing situation, December 2014

More households, smaller households

Figure 20: UK households, by size, 2008-18

Pets are part of the family

Key Players - What You Need To Know

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Fragmented supply

Innovative market

Own brand

Small advertising spend

Key Players

Fragmented market place

Healthcare brands

Figure 21: Examples of healthcare companies and brands

Brands of pet products

Channels to Market

Pets at Home truly dominant

3,000 independent pet stores

Grocers focus on foods and treats

Bargain retailing

Different customer journeys for commodity, impulse and considered purchases

Figure 22: Distribution of pet accessories, by retailer, 2015 (est)

Figure 23: Pet retail specialists, turnover (excluding VAT), 2010-14

Figure 24: Pet retail specialists, operating profit, 2010-14

Figure 25: Pet retail specialists, operating margin, 2010-14

The leading pet specialists plot store expansion

Figure 26: Pet retail specialists, store numbers, 2010-15

Figure 27: Pet retail specialists, sales per outlet, 2010-14

Brand Communication and Promotion

Fluctuating spend on petcare advertising

Figure 28: Main monitored advertising spend on petcare, 2011-14

Pets at Home dominates in terms of advertising spend

Figure 29: Main monitored advertising spend on petcare, by advertiser, 2011-14

Television adverts account for 84% of spend

Figure 30: Main monitored advertising spend on petcare, by media type, 2014

Figure 31: Main monitored advertising spend on petcare, by media type, 2013 and 2014 $\,$

Launch Activity and Innovation

Retail innovation

Dogs take centre stage

Beco-friendly retail

Supermarkets prioritise petcare

Helpful online store locator tool

Product innovation

Tracking devices reassure owners on their pet's location

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Tracking pets' health and fitness

Figure 32: PitPat dog fitness tracking app

Pets left at home are no longer alone

Figure 33: PetChatz Greet & Treat Videophone

Giving cats the thrill of the chase

Spray-on plasters

Double-sided extra strong pet wipes

Bed refresher eliminates pet odours

Calming pet acoustics

Microchip cat flap

The Consumer - What You Need to Know

Vibrant market with high levels of purchasing

Toys top the list

People treat pets as if they were human

High use of online shopping

Pets at Home is the most-used store

Choice, competitive prices and convenient location

High-tech pets

Purchasing and Spending

Plenty of impulse buying

Time for bed

Encouraging more replacement of collars and leads

People buy gifts for their pets

Figure 34: Purchases of pet products, December 2012 and April 2015

Figure 35: Repertoire of purchases of petcare products, May 2015

What People Spent on Pet Products

Figure 36: Spend on pet products, April 2015

Where They Bought Pet Accessories – In-store or Online

Figure 37: Shopped in-store or online for pet accessories, any, April 2015

Figure 38: Repertoire of retailers used for petcare purchases, May 2015

Pets at Home tops the list of retailers used

Convenience counts

General retailers

Figure 39: Retailers used for pet accessories, any purchases, April 2015

Comparing in-store and online by retailer

Figure 40: Retailers used for pet accessories, in-store or online, April 2015

Factors Influencing Where They Shop

Figure 41: Factors that influence choice of retailer for pet accessories, April 2015

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Interest in high tech products for pets

Getting pets moving

Monitoring lonely pets

Leave pets watching telly

High tech games have young and upscale appeal

Remote feeding

Figure 42: Interest in tech products for pets, April 2015

Appendix – Data Sources and Abbreviations

Data sources

Market sizing and segment performance

Fan chart forecast

Abbreviations

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