



House and ~~Home~~ Hound

(Super Dog Lives Here)

Ever-loyal, they protect us with a dogged diligence unrivaled by any security system. Masters at feigning sleep, they lay in wait for *Evil Florist Lady* and *Scary UPS Man*, ready to maim, frisk, or lick face at the drop of a bone. They are consummate multitaskers, fetchingly skilled at the roles of best friend and body guard, therapist, navigator, personal trainer, dinner date, and doctor. No matter their size, they're large and in charge, our superheros in fur suits. Who else, but our beloved dogs, could occupy such special places in our hearts — and in our homes.

To that rogue breed of humans who growl that dogs need only the basics — a bowl of kibble, some water, a corner to sleep in — we respectfully say, “woof-woof.” Our 21st Century Snoopies are savvy and sophisticated. They watch TV with the kids, go shopping with Mom, and ride shotgun in Daddy's Caddy. As such, they've developed a keen ability to sniff out the ultimate in canine creature comforts at places like Wet Noses, located on St. Armand's Circle in Sarasota.

A proverbial four-legged fantasy land, Wet Noses caters to the discriminating house hound — and his or her owner, of course. Pick a plush velour dog bed to keep Ginger cozy and the bedroom hip at the same time. Or treat Rocky to a stunning new set of bowls that not only perks up meal time, but



Top Left: These contemporary stainless steel, wood, and wrought iron doggie dining stations are sized to suit the tall and the small. A colorful selection of hand-crafted ceramic bowls and dishes are also available.

Left: Just a whimsical little message pillow tossed here or there adds some tail-wagging fun to any room.

Below: Marley models one of the “shaggy chic” wearables at her owner's store, including collars, leashes, bandannas, even hats. Sporting her safari look, which compliments her leopard print “donut” bed, she's ready to run through the jungle ... or nap through the afternoon in style.

your kitchen decor too.

And after you've appeased the furry family members, you can indulge yourself in some of the store's wonderful home accents, from candles to coasters to coffee table books. The one titled, “Sexy Dogs” will surely have your guests howling with delight.

Deck the walls with wet-nosed watercolors and adorn your doorstep with frisky woven mats, like the one that reads, “heavy petting zone.” After all, they do so much for us, why not pay tribute to our little buddies by making our homes “dog houses” they can be proud of?

P.S. Don't tell Rover, but Wet Noses offers great stuff for cool kitties, too.



TEXT BY: MARNEE SMITH O'NEIL
PHOTOGRAPHY BY: STEVE MELTZER