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Splashing out £18m on home help

BRUMMIES spend a whopping £18m a year on domestic help - shattering the myth that hiring staff is for the landed gentry. Having your own nanny, gardener, cleaner or odd job man is

no longer considered to be a luxury - a third of people in Birmingham now bring in outside help, according to a survey from UK recruitment firm gumtree.com

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A NEW survey has revealed Brummies spend a whopping £18 million a year on domestic help. The figures from recruitment site, Gumtree.com, shatters the myth that hiring staff is for the landed gentry and reveal that whether it be a nanny, gardener or a cleaner - none are considered luxury items

By Lucy Wareing

Brummies leave it to the hired help



● **Pam Rolinson** doesn't believe in having a cleaner. "People who do have cleaners always say they end up cleaning before the cleaner gets there anyway," said the 62-year-old from Halesowen. "I quite enjoy doing the cleaning anyway."



● **Retired Rita Rolinson** from Dudley wouldn't have a cleaner. "I do all my own cleaning," she said. "We could never afford it when I was younger, so I'm used to doing it myself." But the 61-year-old said if she won the lottery and had a bigger house, she would have a gardener.



● **Mark Bradley**, aged 34, from Erdington, would appreciate the extra help. "I would love to get a cleaner because I end up doing a huge percentage of it at home," said the Removals Porter. "It would be nice to come home to a clean flat."



● **Commercial Banker Jason Crisp** said: "My wife's actually taken some ironing to a shop to have done today. "If we could afford it we would employ a cleaner, maybe a cook too that would be nice. But, I would keep doing the gardening because I enjoy it," added the 36-year-old.



● **Care Assistant, Jenna Clinton**, agrees that there isn't enough time anymore. "I'm not surprised people get help though, they just don't have the time anymore," said the 21-year-old. "If I had kids, I would have a nanny as it saves being stuck in the house."

anymore. The research also revealed that 27 per cent of Brummies have said there isn't enough time in the day to fit in all their chores. **Sophy Silver**, of Gumtree.com, said: "It's really not surprising that so many people are desperate for help around the home. People these days value time more than money."