In the navy, and ABK9 laps it up

HIS full name is Able Seaman K9 Sailor, or ABK9 for short.

A silky cross lhasa apso he may be, this sailing canine emails admirals, talks in navy speak and comes with a full list of standard operating procedures.

He's also one of the prized and pampered pooches regularly under the watchful eye of Don't Fret Pet franchisee Lynn Callahan of Trinity Beach and her 40 "minders" from Mission Beach to Mareeba.

Mrs Callahan says when Sailor comes to stay, the right lingo must be used.

"In your bunk" means off to bed. "Off to the heads" means it's time for the toilet.

"His owner is a naval reservist and talks to him in navy speak," Mrs Callahan said.

With school holidays on the horizon and pets in need of care, it's unlikely to be the strangest request coming her way.

"Some people bring them different outfits to wear. Others have different coloured bowls for different foods."



At ease, sailor: Able Seaman K9 Sailor receives all the attention and care he has come to expect from Tegan and Lynn Callahan. Picture: NELLIE PRATT