

JT (Georgia)

JT has been employed at Appleton Harley Davidson in Clarksville, Tennessee for 8 years. His initial duties were cleaning the showroom and parking lot. Over time, he has gained skills and is now responsible for cleaning and detailing motorcycles. JT also manages the company's recycling center, which is a program that he developed because he saw a way he could make a difference by recycling cardboard boxes for parts and other packaging materials.



When JT is at work, he is all business. Two years ago his cousin joined the team at Appleton's, and JT was quick to set boundaries. "Cousin Ryan, no family business here," he said. "Work is work". JT takes pride in picking out his work wardrobe, which is a Harley shirt which represent Appleton's. His favorite has an American Eagle on the back of it.

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Through his work, JT had grown in his self-esteem and has looked for other ways to engage in his community. He made the decision to join a civic group called Bikers Who Care (BWC). The BWC raises over \$250,000 per year to give in cash donations to organizations that support people with disabilities. JT went through the same year-long process, including all the same late nights and volunteer shifts as every other prospective member, to earn his way into this organization. Because JT has autism, this level of commitment and dedication is even more noteworthy. He is the first BWC member with a significant disability. JT speaks with pride when he talks about his brothers in the BWC and his work family at Appleton's.

In September 2019, JT made began training to be a motorcycle mechanic. His trainer states he is a natural. JT has already spoken with the Chief Mechanic at Appleton's. Once he completes his course, he will immediately be transferred to the Mechanic Shop at Appleton's.

