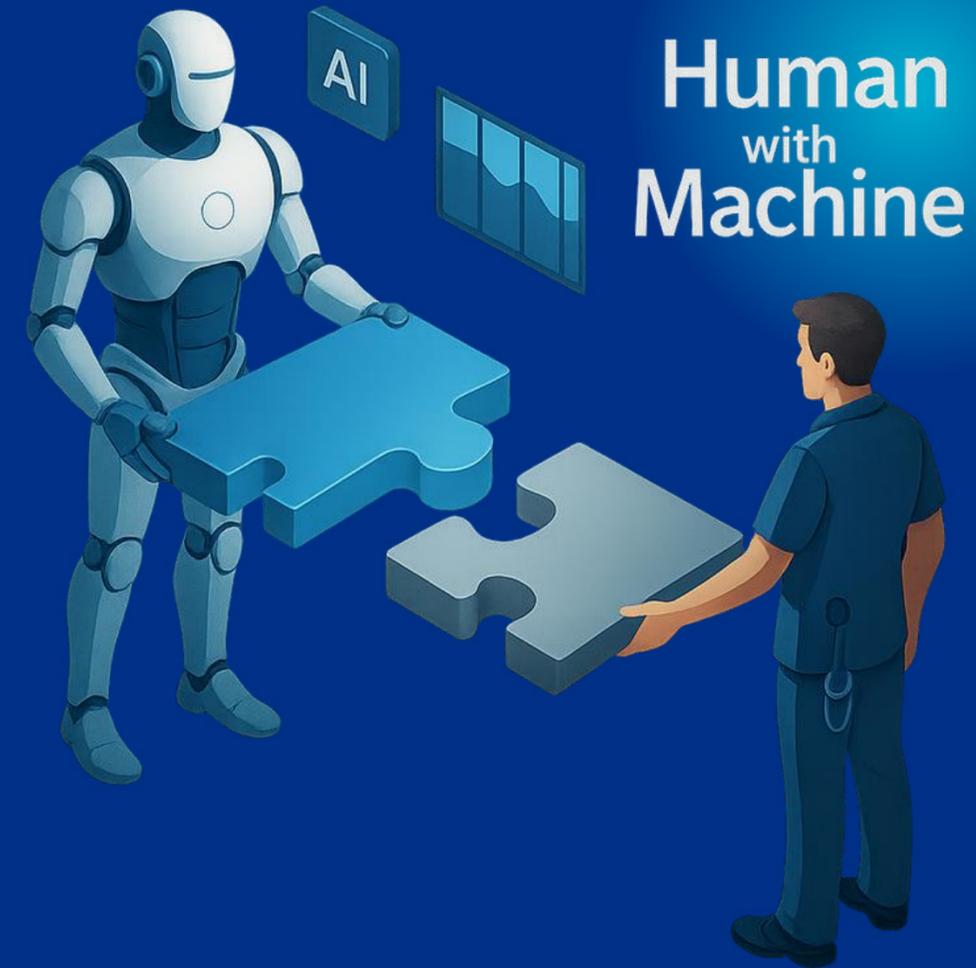




Digital & Innovation Services

AI ROBOTICS – A BASIC OVERVIEW



AI ROBOTICS – A BASIC OVERVIEW

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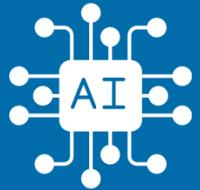
WHAT IS AI ROBOTICS?

AI Robotics is about making robots smarter by giving them the ability to learn, adapt, and make decisions on their own. This enables robots to help us in more advanced, flexible, and useful ways than ever before. Robotics refers to the physical machine, while artificial intelligence acts as the software brain. By combining these, we create robots that can solve problems and respond to changes in their environment. These robots can assist people in a wide variety of tasks, from cleaning our homes to exploring space.



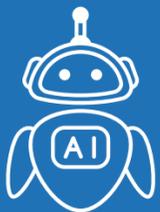
Robotics

Robotics is about building machines (robots) that can perform physical tasks, often to help humans with difficult, dangerous, or repetitive jobs.



Artificial Intelligence (AI)

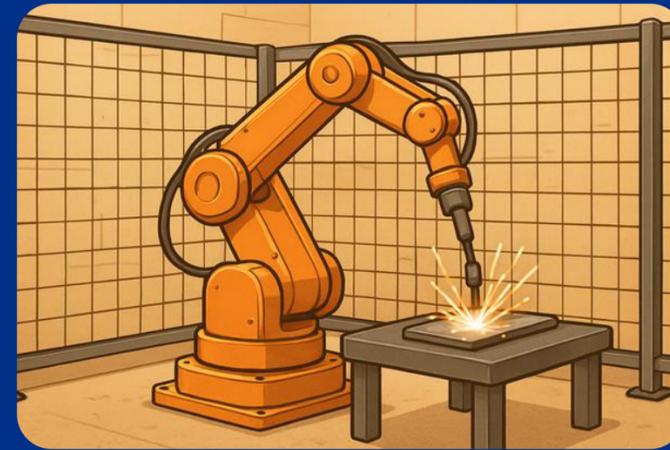
Artificial Intelligence (AI) is about creating computer systems that can perform tasks normally requiring human intelligence, like learning, reasoning, and decision-making.



AI Robotics

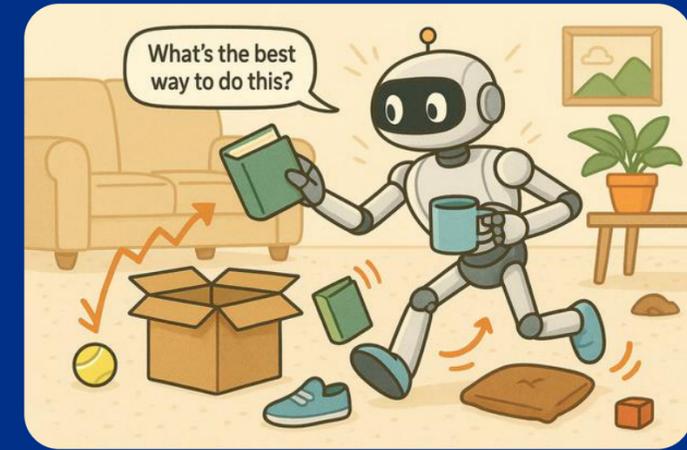
AI Robotics combines these two fields. It involves creating robots that can do more than just perform tasks. They can also sense their surroundings, think about what to do, and act intelligently and adaptively.

Traditional Robotics



Traditional robots excel at specific, repetitive tasks in predictable settings. They follow their programming perfectly but lack the ability to adapt or learn beyond their initial instructions.

AI Robotics



In contrast, AI gives systems the power to learn and adapt. AI robots can perceive their environment, make intelligent choices, and modify their actions based on new information, offering a dynamic and responsive capability.

FROM AUTOMATION TO AUTONOMY: THE EVOLUTION

TRADITIONAL ROBOT (AUTOMATION)



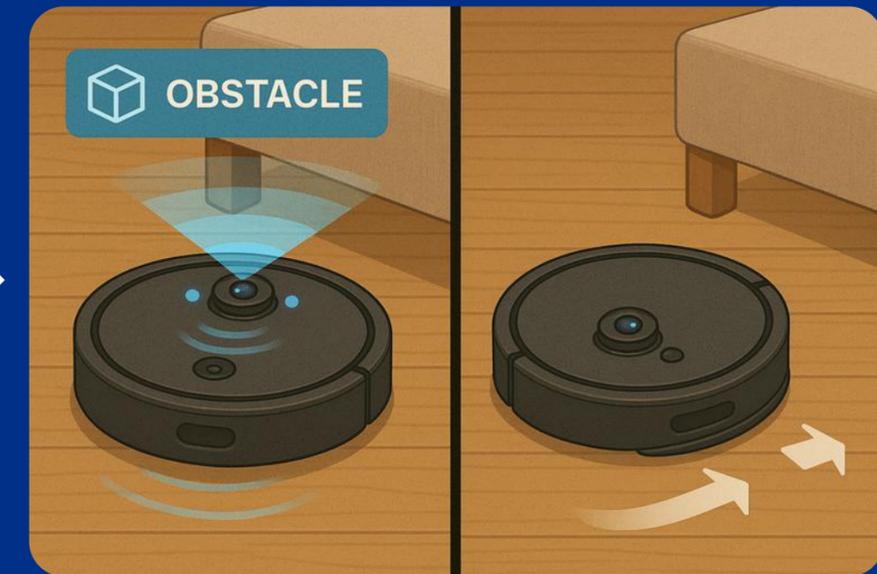
Initially, robots were purely automated machines, programmed to follow precise instructions repeatedly. They work perfectly in highly controlled, unchanging environments like assembly lines, but cannot adjust if anything unexpected happens, they lack flexibility.

ADDING INTELLIGENCE (THE AI INGREDIENTS)



The next step involves adding Artificial Intelligence components. We give the robot sensors (like eyes and ears) to gather real-time information about its surroundings, and AI software (the 'brain') to process this data, interpret situations, and make decisions beyond its basic programming.

AI ROBOT (AUTONOMY)

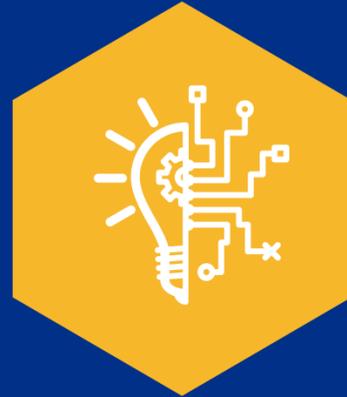


Integrating sensors and AI creates an autonomous robot. This 'smarter' machine can understand its surroundings, make independent decisions, and crucially adapt its actions to deal with unexpected changes, allowing it to operate effectively in less predictable, real-world environments and often learn from experience.

WHY ADD AI TO ROBOTS?

Handle Complex & Changing Tasks

AI allows robots to do more than just simple, repetitive jobs. They can tackle tasks with variation in less structured settings.



Work Alongside People

AI enables collaborative robots or 'cobots' to work safely near humans, assisting with tasks without needing safety cages.



Improve Safety

Robots can perform dangerous, dirty, or difficult jobs, keeping people out of harm's way e.g., handling hazardous materials, working in extreme environments. AI helps them do this more safely by understanding their surroundings.



Reduce Costs (Long-Term)

While initial investment can be high, AI robots can lead to significant savings over time through lower labour costs for automated tasks, reduced errors and waste, and optimised resource use.



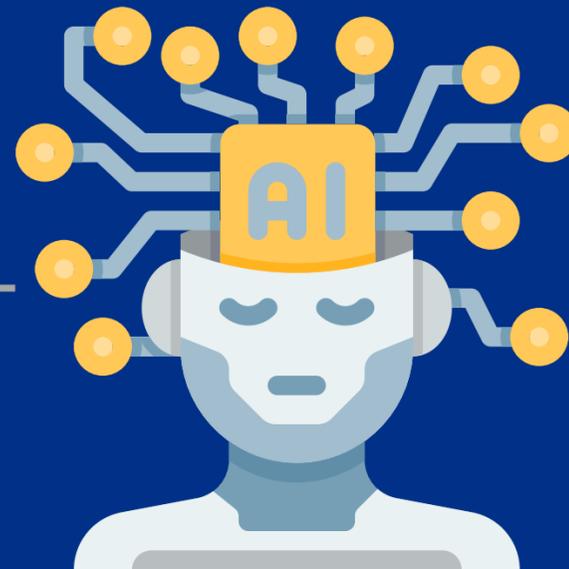
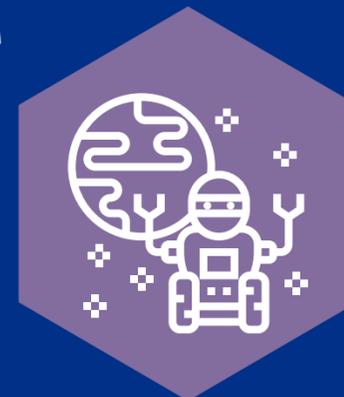
Increase Efficiency

AI robots can work continuously, optimise tasks, and automate more complex processes in areas like manufacturing, logistics, and even surgery.

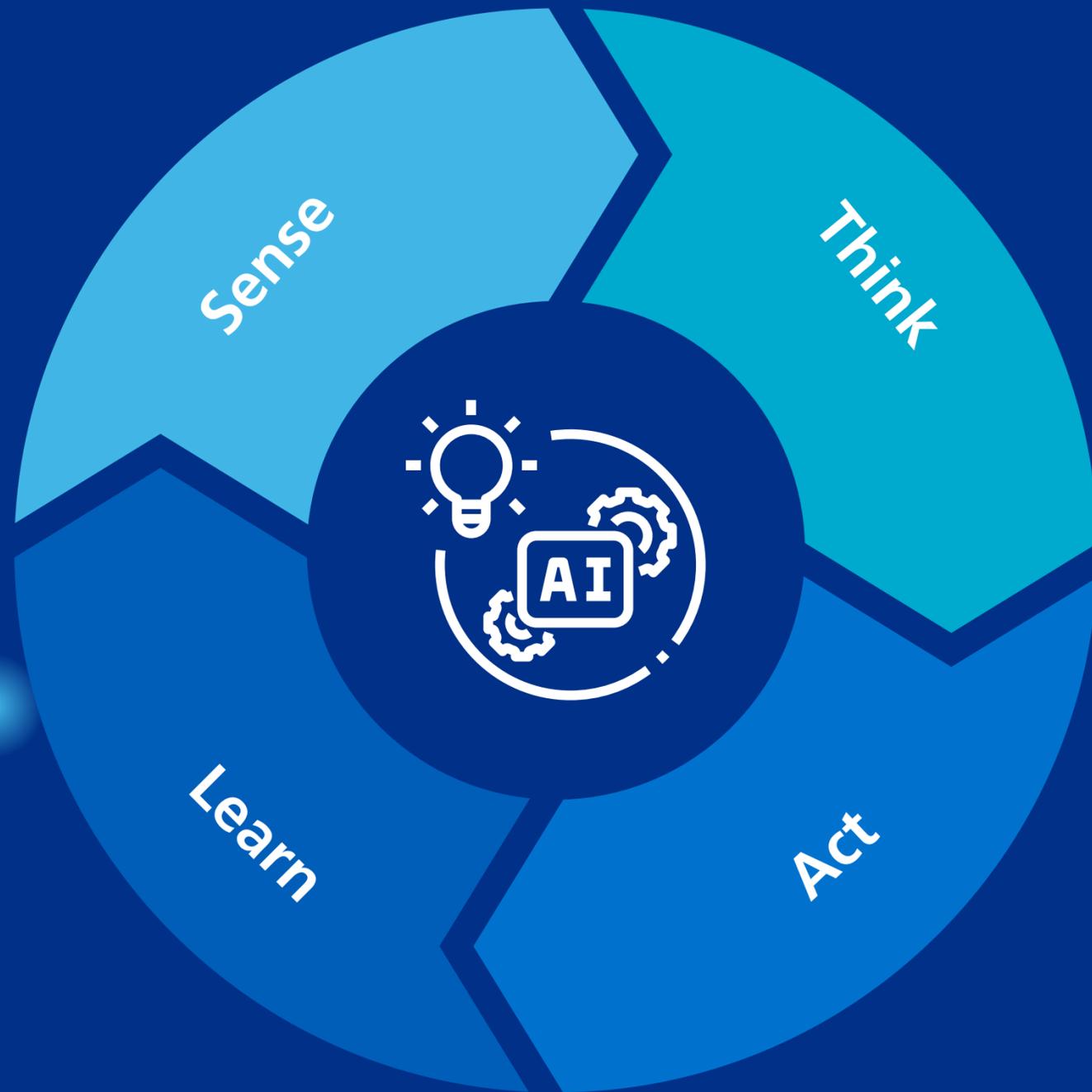


Enable New Possibilities

AI makes entirely new applications possible, like self-driving vehicles, advanced surgical assistance, or exploring distant planets.

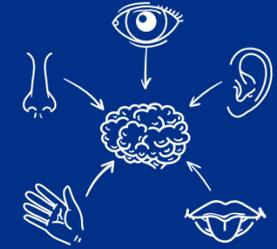


HOW DO AI ROBOTS WORK? (SENSE, THINK, ACT, LEARN)



Sense

Robots use sensors (like cameras, microphones, touch sensors, location trackers) to gather information about themselves and the world around them. This is like the robot's eyes, ears, and sense of touch.



Think

The robot's 'brain', computer processors running AI programs, analyses the sensor information. It figures out what is happening and decides what action to take based on its goals. This is where the AI does the reasoning and planning.



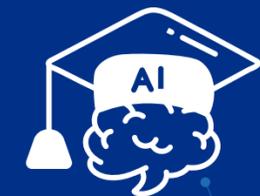
Act

The robot uses its motors, wheels, arms, or grippers to carry out the decided action: moving, grasping, speaking, etc. This is the robot physically doing something.



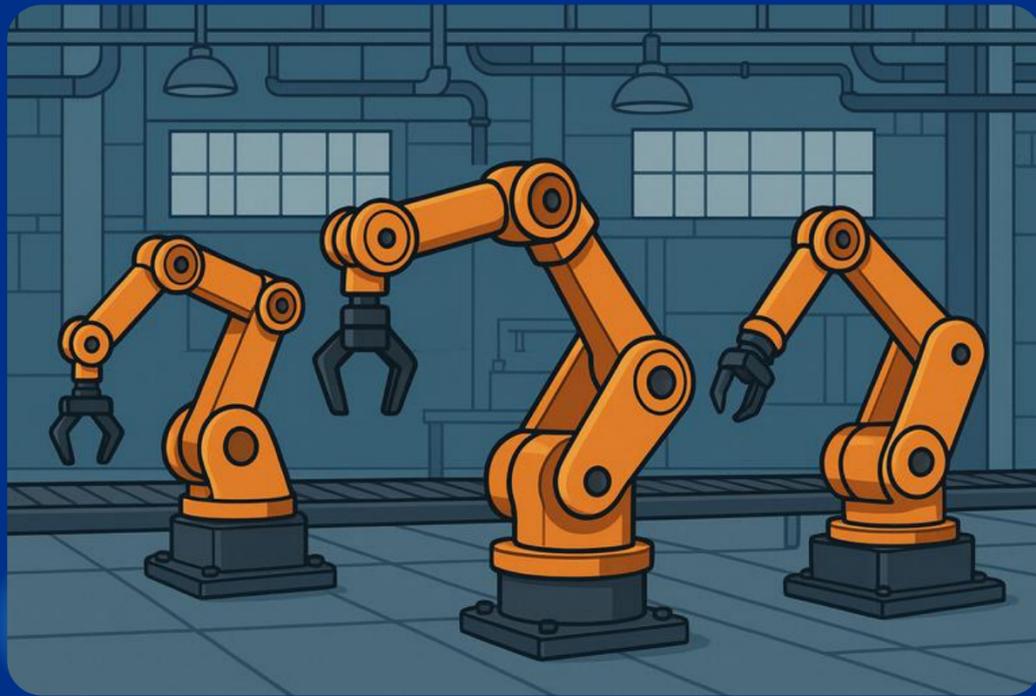
Learn

Based on the outcome of the action: Was it successful? Did it achieve the goal? What new information was gathered? The robot updates its understanding or strategy. This helps it make smarter decisions and perform better next time.



DIFFERENT TYPES OF AI ROBOTS

Stationary Robots



Often robotic arms fixed in one place, common in factories.

Wheeled Robots



Move on wheels, used for transport and delivery indoors e.g., warehouse robots.

Legged Robots



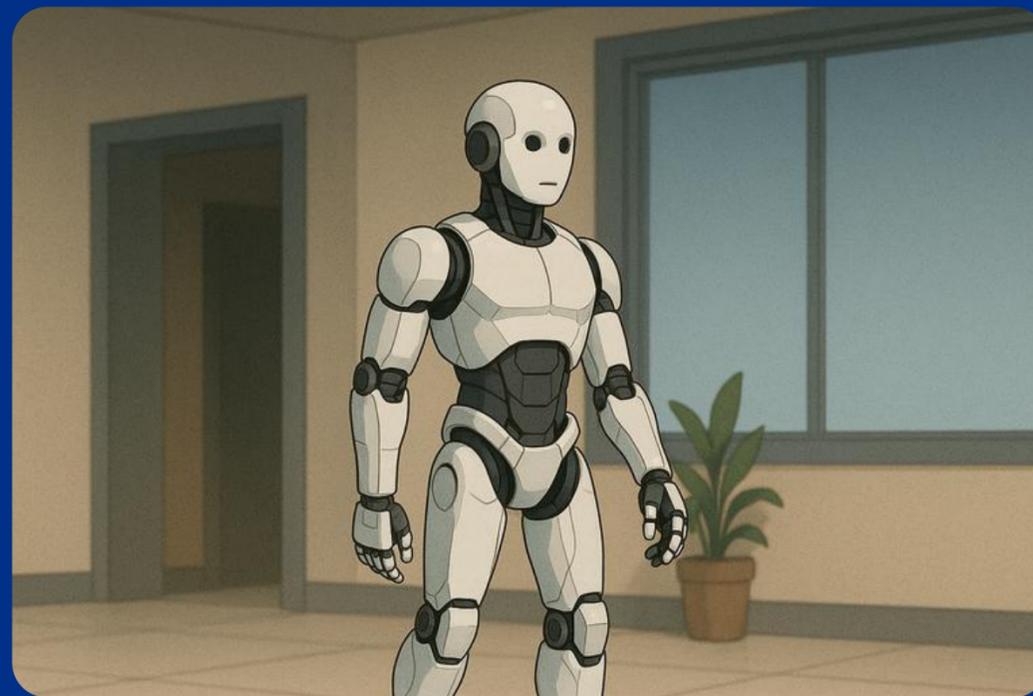
Use legs to walk or run, capable of handling uneven ground or stairs.

Flying Robots (Drones)



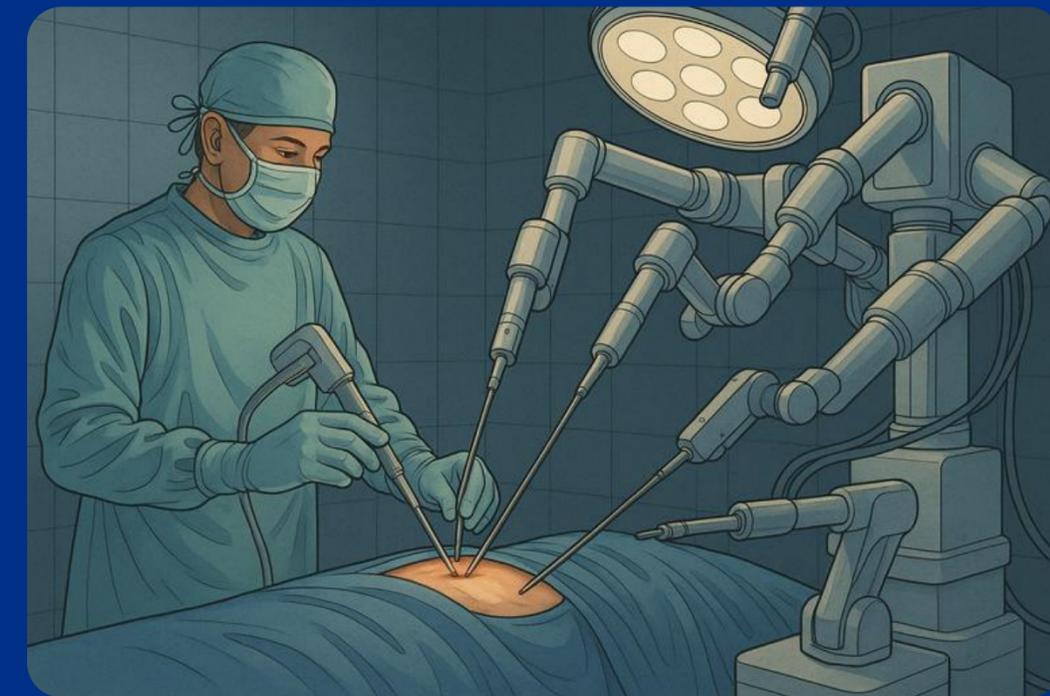
Used for aerial tasks like delivery, mapping, and inspection.

Humanoid Robots



Designed to look and move somewhat like humans, aiming for versatility in human environments.

Surgical Robots



Highly precise systems assisting surgeons in complex operations.

PEOPLE AND AI ROBOTS WORKING TOGETHER

Collaboration Focus

Increasingly, AI is enabling robots to work with people as effective partners in shared goals, rather than just replacing them entirely in tasks.

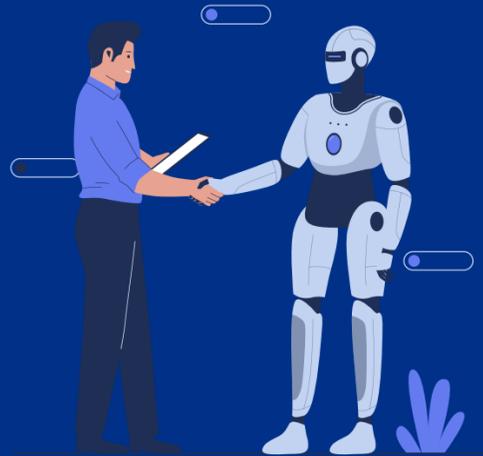


AI Enables Safety

Artificial Intelligence is absolutely crucial for enabling safe close-proximity work, powering the advanced sensors and smart controls that allow robots to reliably detect people, limit their force output, and actively avoid collisions.

Cobots (Physical Collaboration)

Special 'collaborative robots' (cobots) are specifically designed to operate safely alongside human workers without traditional boundaries, often assisting with physically demanding, strenuous or highly repetitive parts of a task.

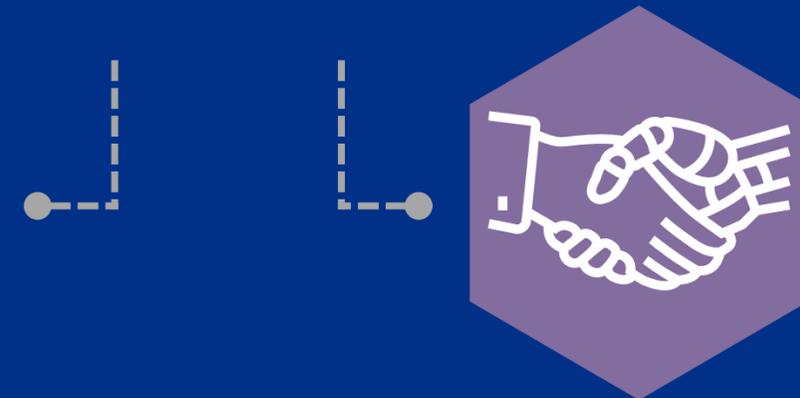


Standards Matter

Designing and responsibly deploying robots intended to work near people necessitates strict adherence to established international safety standards and requires conducting thorough risk assessments beforehand to ensure safe operation.

Social Robots (Interaction)

Other robots focus primarily on social interaction, assisting nurses with deliveries in hospitals, providing helpful information in shops, or offering companionship within homes, using AI to better understand language and social cues.



Trust is Essential

For truly successful human-robot teams to function effectively, people involved need to feel genuinely confident in the robot's consistent reliability, its predictable behaviour, and its overall competence in performing its assigned tasks.

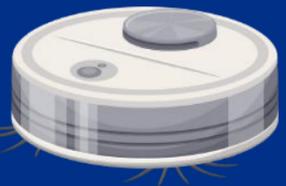
REAL-WORLD APPLICATIONS OF AI ROBOTICS

AI Robotics is revolutionising a wide range of industries and influencing our lives in many different ways. AI Robotics enhances efficiency, productivity, and safety across various sectors, including healthcare, manufacturing, transport, and everyday household tasks. The real-world applications of AI Robotics continue to expand, helping organisations and individuals address problems more effectively and shaping the future of how we live and work.



EVERYDAY LIFE & SERVICES

Bringing automation and assistance into our communities.



ROBOT VACUUMS

Employ AI-powered mapping and navigation to clean homes systematically while intelligently avoiding furniture and obstacles.



HOTEL DELIVERY

Service robots autonomously deliver items like towels or room service directly to guest rooms, navigating corridors and using lifts.



RESTAURANT ASSISTANCE

Robots assist waiting staff by autonomously carrying trays of food from the kitchen to tables or returning dirty dishes.



HOME ASSISTANTS

Experimental robots offer convenient monitoring, reminders, and voice-controlled assistance around the house.



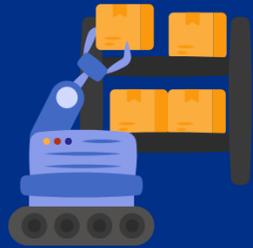
HEALTHCARE

Advancing precision and supporting staff.



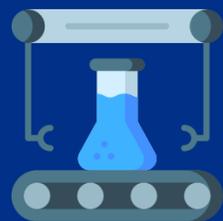
SURGICAL ASSISTANCE

Robotic systems assist surgeons by providing enhanced 3D vision and tremor-filtered control for greater precision in operations.



HOSPITAL LOGISTICS

Autonomous mobile robots independently navigate busy hospital corridors to deliver supplies, medications, and lab samples.



LAB AUTOMATION

Automated systems employ robotics for high-speed, accurate handling and analysis of patient samples around the clock.



ROBOTIC REHABILITATION

AI-powered robotic devices guide and support patients through personalised rehabilitation exercises and physical therapy.



TRANSPORTATION

Enabling autonomous journeys and smarter traffic.



ROBOTAXIS

Services use sophisticated AI for fully autonomous driving within designated urban zones without needing a human driver.



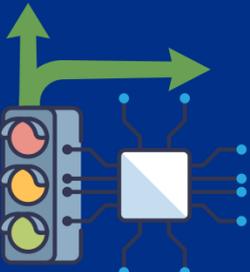
DRIVER ASSISTANCE (ADAS)

Systems in modern cars leverage AI to help with steering, speed control, and parking under human supervision.



AUTONOMOUS LORRIES

Companies are actively developing lorries that use AI to manage long-haul freight transport safely on major roads.



SMART TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

AI systems analyse real-time data to optimise signal timings and predict congestion, aiming for smoother traffic flow.



MANUFACTURING & LOGISTICS

Automating production and speeding up delivery.



WAREHOUSE NAVIGATION

Robots autonomously navigate warehouses to bring shelves of goods directly to human workers for packing.



INTELLIGENT PICKING

Advanced robotic arms use AI vision to identify and precisely pick up complex or previously unseen items during assembly.



FACTORY TRANSPORT

Autonomous mobile robots efficiently transport materials, components, and finished products across large factory floors.



AUTONOMOUS DELIVERY

Delivery robots and drones utilise AI for smart navigation through streets or airspace to achieve autonomous package delivery.



CHALLENGES AND IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

01

Dexterity & Handling

Robots still struggle with complex manipulation (like human hands), battery life, and true 'common sense' understanding.



02

Power & Efficiency

Providing enough power for mobile robots and running complex AI efficiently remains difficult.



03

Reliability

Ensuring robust performance, especially when facing rare or unexpected 'edge cases'.



04

Jobs

Concerns about automation replacing human jobs and the need for workforce adaptation and support.



05

Safety & Accountability

Ensuring robots operate safely and determining who is responsible when errors occur.



06

Privacy

Robots with sensors (cameras, microphones) raise significant questions about data collection and use.



07

Fairness & Bias

Preventing AI systems from reflecting or amplifying existing societal biases in their decisions.

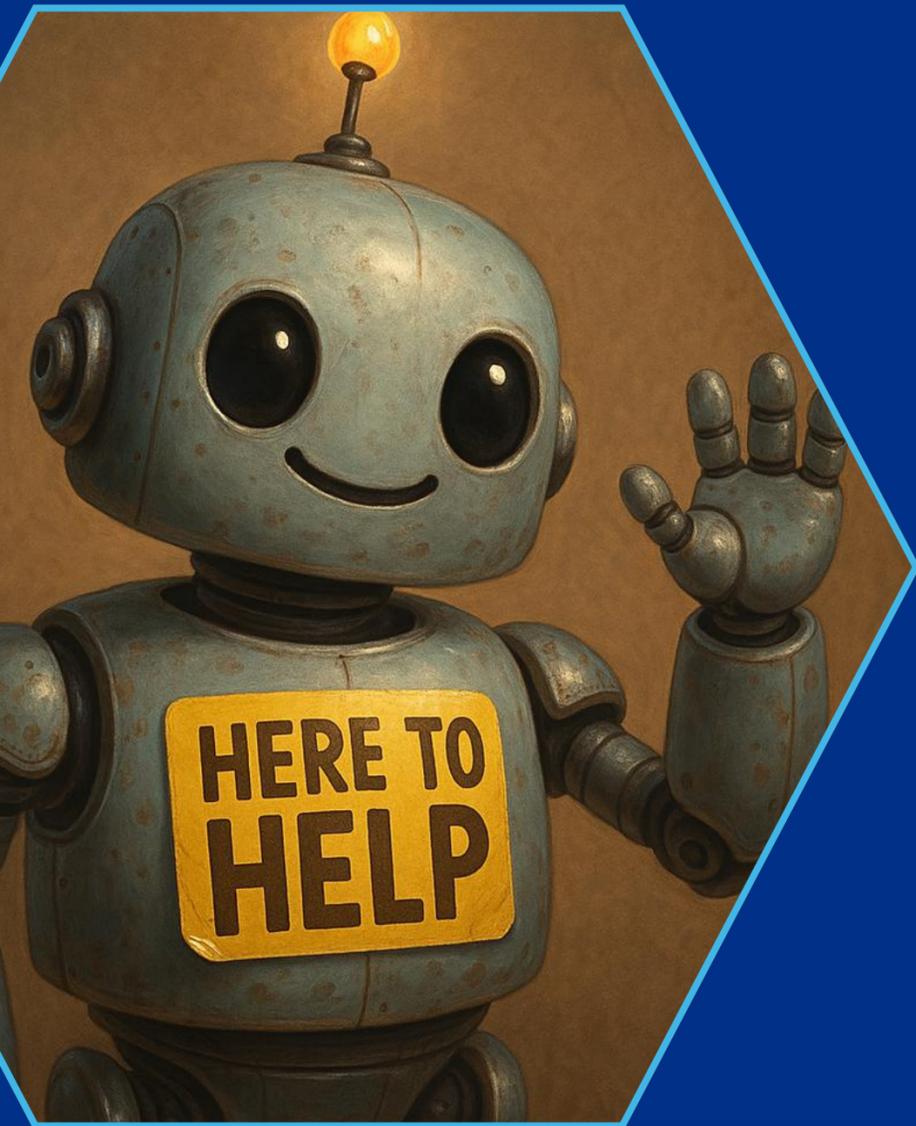


08

Misuse

Addressing concerns about potential weaponisation or other harmful applications of autonomous robots.





THE FUTURE OF AI ROBOTICS

We can expect AI Robotics to become increasingly integrated into our everyday lives, often working behind the scenes to make technology more intelligent and responsive. Ongoing advancements are enabling robots to carry out more complex tasks, interact more naturally with people, and adapt to changing environments with greater ease. Exciting progress is being made in areas such as healthcare, home assistance, and autonomous transport, and these capabilities are continuing to evolve rapidly. Just as importantly, there is a strong emphasis on ensuring that AI Robotics develops in a responsible and ethical manner, with safety, fairness, and trust as guiding principles for its future use.

IMPORTANT THINGS TO REMEMBER

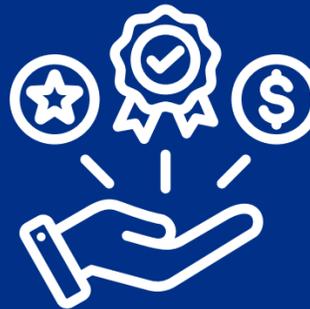
01 AI is the Key

Artificial Intelligence is what truly transforms robots. It gives them sensing, thinking, and adapting abilities, moving them far beyond simple, fixed automation.



02 Real-World Benefits

These intelligent robots offer significant advantages. They improve safety by taking over hazardous jobs and boosting efficiency. They can handle complex or delicate tasks beyond human limits and enable entirely new services and possibilities.



03 How They Work

Remember the fundamental operational loop: AI robots continuously sense their environment, think using AI to decide what to do, act physically, and often learn from the outcome to improve.



04 Diverse Applications

AI robotics is versatile. It is being applied across almost every sector imaginable. Examples include factories, farms, hospitals, transport systems, public services, and even inside our homes.



05 Challenges Exist

Despite the progress, challenges remain. We must acknowledge technical limitations and costs. There are also crucial ethical questions about jobs, safety, fairness, and privacy that need careful consideration as the technology advances.



06 Guided by Humans

Ultimately, AI robotics remains a powerful tool created by people. Its responsible development and beneficial use depend entirely on human involvement. This includes continued guidance, thoughtful oversight, and ensuring the technology aligns with our values and goals.



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University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust
Derriford Hospital, Plymouth, PL6 8DH

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We are compassionate
We listen, learn and improve