

17 Social robots

What does it do?



A social robot can perform complex movements and interact with the user by responding to touch and commands or by initiating activities. The goal of a social robot is to create close and effective interactions with its user. It can provide assistance, companionship, and stimulation.

Robots can have a variety of shapes and sizes, some resembling animals, some are more human-like. Some robots are very mobile, others are meant to be more stationary and require help to move around or have to be lifted and put in a different place when needed. Some robots have an integrated LCD touch screen to display content and to enable video calls.

What can it be used for?

#Companionship #Entertainment #Stimulation Social robots can act as a companion for PwD. They have a physical presence in PwDs' home and can respond to social cues. Depending on their programming, social robots can initiate conversations or activities or provide guidance for safe exercising (e.g., some robots can dance to music, tell jokes, or prompt the user to listen to an audio book). Some robots have an integrated LCD screen which can be used for video calls with friends or family. This can help to combat loneliness and social isolation.

Optional features



A new feature currently in development and already integrated in some social robot prototypes are fall detectors. Robots can use their sensors to detect if a person has a fall and initiate an emergency response.

Comment	Rating	Author	Date
My friend might find this quite amusing, but also might be intimidated by it - not sure	2	Violet Tiger	Aug 31, 2020, 02:12 PM
I think that as technology advances there will be a great demand for 'Social robots'. The fact that there is a physical presence in the home of someone with dementia would hopefully prove not just a comfort but a source of company, entertainment and support. The idea of a falls monitor built in is a welcome advance. I imagine cost could prove a barrier to many people/local authorities but perhaps these would operate on a lease basis rather than individuals needing to purchase outright?	5	Purple Cat	Jul 01, 2020, 04:40 PM