

# What will Happen if Robots Take the Place of Humans?

Do you mean physical robots or do you include things like computers, automating cognitive tasks?

Here is a picture of a robot, painted by a robot, building another robot. (out of random sticks it picked up in the forest I guess?)



(although the robot doing the "painting" of the image didn't actually hold a paintbrush, but did it all inside a computer, i.e. DALL-E 3)

Regardless, this stuff is happening, and happening fast. First all jobs that have purely cognitive output (such as artists, writers, most executives, accountants, programmers, architects and engineers, etc) will be replaced. This will probably happen in the next ten years. It will simply be uneconomical to hire many humans at all for any of those jobs. The ones that are hired are doing a ton of things because they just del-

egate it all to the AIs.

Jobs like plumbers will face competition from people who either do their own plumbing, or hire an unskilled person (that might even be a teenager) to do it, since it is as easy as pointing your camera at your plumbing situation, answering questions, waiting till the self-driving car drops off the parts you need along with the loaner tools, and then doing exactly what it says to do as you simply point the camera at your plumbing work in progress. There will be no need for training for such things.

And eventually the physical robots will catch up, and will replace the rest of the jobs, like construction and factory jobs and agricultural jobs.

What will "happen" depends on how good a job the governments do of addressing this massive shift in how society works. In the best scenario, we'll all just do what we want to do instead of going to work, while also having most everything we want (as long as what we want isn't a lot of land, power over a lot of other people, or any such thing that is still scarce). The government will make sure everyone shares the wealth reasonably, with even the laziest people able to live comfortably because no one really needs them

to work anyway, since machines can do it better and cheaper.

Another scenario is that a whole lot of people have no income and are desperate. Because the government isn't able to adapt.

The worst scenario is....well, I guess the machines eliminate us. Its probably as simple as making a virus that we can't defend against in time. I don't think this is likely to happen unless there are bad people making it happen, but there are plenty of bad people in the world so pessimism isn't unjustified.



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