

Pros and Cons of Artificial Intelligence

Pros

Pro #1

Reduction in Human Error

Humans aren't perfect. We are prone to making mistakes, which can lead to unwanted results. Well-programmed computers are much less likely to make errors, and AI helps them learn from the mistakes they do make, avoiding them in the future.



Pro #2

Always Available

Artificial Intelligence is capable of doing something humans cannot - working nonstop, 24/7/365. Having not requiring lunch breaks, time with their families, rest, or any other sort of humanly function, AI is the perfect employee every multi-million-dollar company dreams of having.



Pro #3

Quality of Life Improvements

Hey Siri! Set a timer for 15 minutes. Alexa, play Beyonce.

We already have AI integrated into our everyday lives and is only getting better. We've all heard of self-driving cars, a fairly new innovation in this regard. One of AI's major goals is to improve our quality of life, making menial tasks easy.



Pro #4

Lessens Risk

Artificial Intelligence systems are a great substitute for humans in dangerous or risky situations, potentially saving lives. Why send a poor soul to explore the deepest trenches of the sea, under extreme pressure and unknown risks, when we could send an autonomous robot to do the dirty work for us?



Cons

Con #1

Expensive & Requires Maintenance

Artificial Intelligence is improving every day, so the technology and infrastructure it's based on need to keep up with it, which can become costly. Additionally, those machines require maintenance and upkeep.



Con #2

Unemployment

On the flip side of Pro #2, the amazing work ethic of computers could lead to the unemployment of many. Sure, having robots replace cashiers may save money for companies, reducing payroll costs - but now thousands of people are without jobs. How will they feed themselves?



Con #3

Carbon Footprint

UMass Amherst found that building and training an AI language system from scratch generated up to 78,000lbs of emissions - twice as much the average person exhales in a lifetime.

It's ironic to see one of the most significant rising technologies have such a massive carbon footprint in an age so concerned with climate change.



Con #4

Lack of Emotion

In situations where AI is responsible for making important, live-impacting decisions, it is unnerving to realize that they have a complete lack of emotion. A self-driving car encounters an unexpected situation in which it must either damage itself or risk injuring a pedestrian... which will it choose?

