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Robot Can Taste Wine and Cheeses

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#### **Average Story Rating:**

A new robot that can taste wine and identify cheeses.

Ever got bored of sniffing cheeses and tasting wine? Why not have a robot do it for you!

Researchers at [NEC](#) and Mie University in Japan have designed a robot that can taste and identify dozens of various wines, cheeses, and hors d'oeuvres.

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A green and white prototype robot with eyes, a head and mouth was unveiled last month (pictured below). The robot's left arm is equipped with an infrared spectrometer that fires off a beam of infrared light when objects are placed up against the sensor. The reflected light is analyzed in real time to determine the object's chemical composition and even alert possible health issues (i.e. salty or fatty foods).

When it identifies a wine, the robot speaks in a childlike voice - creepy! It then names the brand and adds a comment on the taste. [Developers](#) of the robot said they can be personalized and programmed to recognize the kinds of wines.

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*Of the thousands of wines on the market, the robot can be programmed to accurately identify only a few dozen at most. It also has more trouble with the task after the bottle has been opened and the wine begins to breathe and thus transform chemically.*



The 2-foot robot will cost around \$1,000 initially but the robot will go to market anytime soon, however the sensor might.