

## The Influence of Appearance in HRI Selection

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## **The Influence of Appearance in HRI Selection**

According to Forbes, first impressions are formed within seven seconds, commonly based on looks alone. Appearance has a large impact on social judgment. The concept of vision concentrated opinion is also applicable to human perception of robots. Here we examined the effect robot appearance had on user satisfaction and continuation of interaction with the robot. Participants were introduced to three robots and observed each one completing a simple task of identifying a red circle among black squares. The three robot's form varied immensely in terms of size, color, and other physical attributes. The participants then completed a survey rating each individual robot on how attractive, appealing, and pretty it was perceived to be. The accuracy of each robot changed for each trial by either performing reliably or unreliably. A final fourth trial was conducted to discern the influence of appearance by allowing the participant to select which robot to use. Results indicated that the majority prefer the robot that was rated most attractive and appealing, regardless of whether or not the task was completed successfully. These results provide valuable intel on human opinion of robots based on structure; people tend to value appearance over functionality. This insight can aid scientists in the development of future robotics that are more universally accepted and appreciated by humans.