

Katie and Tex Explore Autonomous Shopping Tech File



Autonomous shopping is a new way of shopping that uses technology to monitor and record items bought and then take a payment directly from a bank account. To use an autonomous shop, you need a bank account and a portable digital device, such as a mobile phone or smartwatch.



What Are Autonomous Shops?

Autonomous shops do not have checkouts and staff to scan items and take payments.

Instead, customers simply take the items they want off the shelves and place them in their bags. When the customer leaves the store, they are automatically charged for the goods they have taken.

How Do Autonomous Shops Work?

Cameras and sensors built into different locations within the shop see what a customer adds to their basket. Once the customer exits the store, an app on their phone or smartwatch contacts their bank and the cost of the shopping is automatically deducted from their bank account.

An autonomous shop is sometimes called a WiWo. WiWo stands for 'Walk in. Walk out'.

Did You Know...?

There are autonomous shops already operating in the UK and it is predicted that there may be a lot more in the future.

What Can You Do?

Think about what sort of amazing technology you might see in a shop of the future. Draw a picture and explain what the new technology is and why it would be useful.

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