

Picture the scenario: You're out of the house and have left your dog on its own. It starts to wonder why you left. Are you growing tired of the animal? Maybe it did something wrong like chew up your clothes a while ago, or maybe it's just being completely paranoid. A very sad situation for such a sensitive creature. So what do you do? You are still away from it as you have things to do, BUT in the company of the dog is a robot on wheels (picture that scutters from Red Dwarf) that tracks the dogs location and pats in on the head. Not only that, you record a message such as 'good doggie' so that the pet knows it's getting praise from you. And just like that, happy dog. If you want the deluxe version, the robot could be your body temperature, it could spray your preferred cologne every now and then, and it could occasionally dispense treats!!

If you want the mega deluxe version, I'm sure things could go a lot further. We're living in times where robots can do all sorts of crazy things such as backflip and play instruments, I'm assuming dog well being robots could be equally advanced. Maybe it could backflip whilst saying 'who's a good doggie?' Not just fun for the dog, but the whole family. Just don't let the robot try blogging. That's my job, back off. If AI doesn't end up taking over the world a la Terminator, I'm sure it could hypothetically take over jobs like mine at very least. So whilst it did sound rude and aggressive when I said 'back off'... Good. Because I mean it. Just another one of my cliches. Milkshakes, CDs, and offending AI. Hopefully AI has reached the level where it knows it's being offended. If not, I'll wait.

If you're really concerned about your dog, you could just hire a dog walker and I'm sure that will be a lot more appreciated, but maybe if technology gets REALLY advanced, robots could end up being better than dog walkers? I'm not sure how that would happen. Is there anything dogs don't like about people that could be improved on? I really don't think so, that's the wonder of dogs. Maybe dogs don't like it when people tell them off? The thing is, they blame themselves so they still think people are perfect! A damn good robot needs to be made to compete with mankind. Maybe give the replacement bots night vision so they don't bump into the animals in the dark. However, I tried to explain to my dog I can't see in such lighting, and I think it understood!

Maybe it's a waste of time making such advanced technology and more effort should go into fighting cancer. I'm just saying a million pound bot that could get hacked and say something terrible like 'bad dog!'. Why not just hire some dog look after-er for £10 an hour? There will be next to no risk of abuse from such a person, as dogs are clever and will bark angrily if they come across someone who is sus. The other great thing about dogs is that according to Terminator 2, they can sniff out bad robots too, so that gives me at least some peace of mind. Here's an interesting thought: Would I rather have my dog mistakenly think it's bad or me have cancer? Having pondered for a while, I can just say 'sorry' to the animal ASAP. No need for cancer. Is such a response ok by the rules? Of course it is, it was my philosophical question.

To conclude, I think my dog patter is a solid concept. It doesn't have to be super technology, maybe it shouldn't be, but at the end of the day I think it's a fun gadget that shouldn't bring to mind the apocalypse in any way and it did for me. Maybe I've taken the Terminator films too literally, but when I saw a real life robot somersaulting, that scared me. I guess I should watch films like WALL-E to remind me that bots can

be nice, sweet even. I may be called a 'child' for watching such a film, but that would be a mistake as my motivations are fairly dark. Now to name my product! 'Dog Self Esteem Device' is certainly descriptive, but it's not too catchy. How about simply D-Sed? Or maybe I should go back the other way? Dog's Human Replacement Councillor? Back to simplicity, DHRC. Unfortunately, there's another DHRC and that's Downright Homespun Radio Company, so let's stick with D-Sed. That's it! Bye!