



Forget ChatGPT—These 3 Robots Are Moving Into Your Home to Do Your Laundry!

Summary

The "Zero Labor Home" is no longer a sci-fi dream; as of this week, it is a retail reality. At CES 2026, tech giants like **LG** and **Samsung** officially unveiled AI-powered assistants that don't just talk—they work. From the **LG CLOiD** robot that can actually fold your shirts to new vacuums that can finally climb stairs, 2026 is the year AI got a body. These aren't just gadgets; they are "Physical AI" designed to handle the messy, repetitive chores we all hate, giving you back hours of your life every single week.

What It Means

AI Finally Gets Hands and Eyes
Until now, AI lived inside your screen. In 2026, "Physical AI" has changed the game. Using new technology called **Vision Language Action (VLA)**, robots can now see a messy room, identify a wrinkled shirt, and understand the physical steps needed to fold it. They aren't just following a program; they are "reasoning" through the environment, allowing them to navigate around pets and furniture to get the job done.

The "Butler" in Your Living Room
The new wave of home robots, like the **LG CLOiD** and **SwitchBot Onero**, act as a central hub for your home. They don't work alone—they talk to your smart fridge to see

what's for breakfast and coordinate with your washer to start a cycle the moment you leave for work. This "Home Companion" approach moves us away from controlling individual appliances to having one smart assistant that manages everything for you.

The End of the "Stair Barrier"
For years, robot vacuums were defeated by a single step. This year, the "Stair Barrier" was officially broken. New models like the **Roborock Saros Rover** use robotic legs to literally climb up and down your stairs, cleaning each step along the way. While these robots are currently luxury items, they represent a massive shift in how we build our homes—moving toward a future where "doing the housework" is something only machines do.



Key Takeaways

- **LG CLOiD:** A humanoid helper with 7-jointed arms that can fold laundry and fetch drinks.
- **Stair-Climbing Vacuums:** The **Roborock Saros Rover** uses legs to clean multi-story homes.
- **Physical AI:** The tech that translates human "voice commands" into "physical movement."
- **Zero Labor Vision:** **LG** and **Samsung's** goal to automate all basic housework by 2030.
- **Fabric Sensing:** New AI washers (like **Samsung Bespoke**) detect fabric types to prevent damage.
- **Autonomous Navigation:** Robots now use "Low Center of Gravity" wheels to avoid tipping over pets.
- **Energy Efficiency:** AI manages your appliances to run only when electricity is cheapest.
- **Security Bonus:** Many of these robots double as mobile security cameras while you're away.
- **High-Tech Hands:** Fingers are now delicate enough to pick up a croissant without crushing it.
- **The Price of Freedom:** Early models range from **\$2,500 to \$10,000** for full humanoid versions.

Our Take (Outlook 2026) * Speculative

2026 is the year we stop looking at our phones and start looking at our living rooms. The "Zero Labor" trend will do for the 21st century what the washing machine did in the 1950s—it will completely redefine our free time. While the first generation is a bit slow (it takes a robot about 2 minutes to fold a towel), the "Physical AI" race is now officially on. Within two years, having a laundry-folding robot will be as normal as having a dishwasher.

References

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