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Robotic Bartender Shows off at Google I/O



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Lately, robots have been put to use in a wide variety of life or death situations. Robots can now be used to perform surgeries, put out fires and even [fight in combat](#). However, with all of these important applications, it can be easy to overlook the smaller, less-critical innovations being made with robotic technology. One such example of a robot that's just plain fun is called the Makr Shkr.

Impossibile caricare il plug-in.

This robot, developed at Massachusetts Institute of Technology's SENSEable City Lab, acts as a master bartender. A report from The Economic Times describes Makr Shkr as a three-armed robotic bartender whose movements are modeled on the gestures of pro ballet dancer Roberto Bolle.

Makr Shkr can perform many actions, from shaking a drink to cutting a lemon for garnish. Another interesting feature of the robot is in how it takes drink orders. Customers use an app to specify which drink they want or make their own drink recipes. Customers can also share their recipes with others, leading to a more social drink-buying experience.

Although Makr Shkr has the ability to essentially learn a nearly infinite number of drink recipes, don't expect it to be replacing actual bartenders anytime soon. The creators of the robot claim that their goal was not to replace bartenders, but to create a "bottom-up bar culture." Makr Shkr was given the chance to demonstrate its capabilities this week at the Google I/O conference in San Francisco.

With the global [service robot market](#) set to hit \$17 billion by the end of this year, it's clear that consumers are not only open to robots in their lives, but enthusiastic about them. So no matter whether you like your martinis shaken or stirred, Makr Shkr should be able to serve you up a unique experience.

Edited by [Alisen Downey](#)