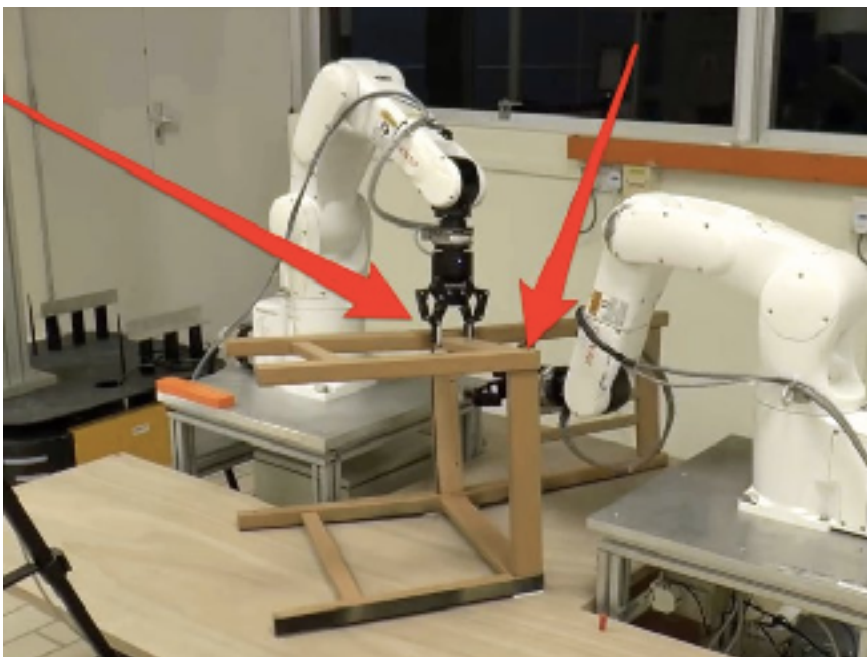


# Scientists designed robots that can probably put together IKEA furniture faster than you

Jacob Shamsian



## ROBOTS PUTTING TOGETHER AN IKEA CHAIR. [CRI GROUP/YOUTUBE](#)

- Making IKEA furniture is frustrating.
- Soon, robots may be able to do it for you.
- Scientists at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore made a robot that read the instructions for an IKEA chair and assembled it in 20 minutes.
  - The technology could potentially be used for other kinds of furniture.
  - The video of the robots making the chair is weirdly mesmerizing.

Be honest: How many times have you struggled to assemble an oddly-named, strangely shaped piece of Ikea furniture? How annoying are Allen wrenches, right?

Amazingly, science now has a solution to your furniture woes: IKEA-building robots.

Robots in Singapore — designed with an array of moving arms, sensors, and cameras — [have been able to assemble an IKEA dining chair in just 20 minutes.](#)

This is just a start. The robots were designed to put together a specific model: [the \\$25 Stefan chair.](#)

But the technology could potentially be used for manufacturing on a larger scale and for boring household things like reading manuals and building furniture, according to its designers at Nanyang Technological University.

"If you think about it, it requires perception, it requires you to plan a motion, it requires control between the robot and the environment, it requires transporting an object with two arms simultaneously," Quang-Cuong Pham, an engineering professor who worked on the project, [told The New York Times](#). "Because this task requires so many interesting skills for robots, we felt that it could be a good project to push our capabilities to the limit."

Nanyang Technological University in Singapore made a sped-up video of the robots doing their work. The most impressive part of it all is just how *calm* these robots are. They're just carefully and efficiently assembling the furniture instead of yelling into the void (like we'd probably be doing).