DAY 35 · Part 3 · What It Can Do

If it can finish a job on its own, how much can you hand it? — Handing over a whole task

Five-Minute AI Lessons · Oct 11, 2026

If you can undo it, hand it off; if you can't, look at it yourself.

In a nutshell

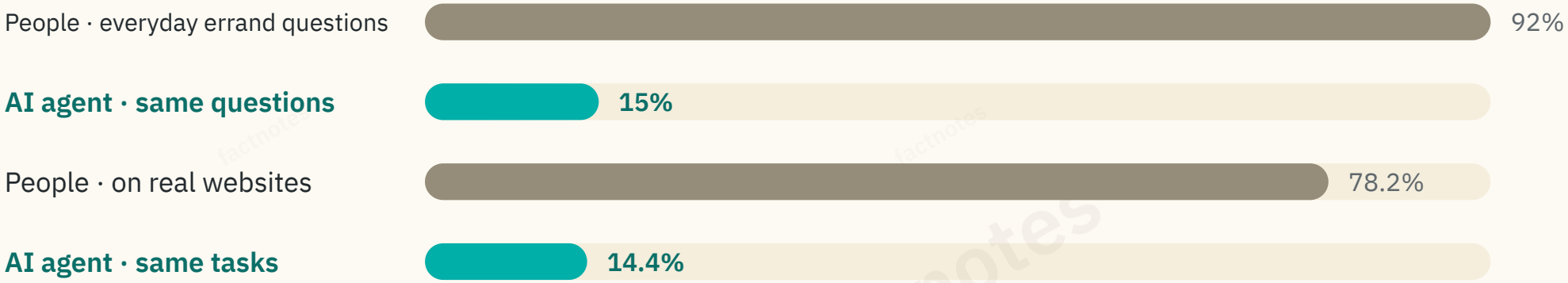
1. There's really only one rule for what you can hand off and what you can't — **can you undo it if it goes wrong?**

2. An AI that you give just a goal, and that then searches, opens files and tries again when it fails, all on its own, is called an **agent**. That's where it parts ways with a chatbot that answers once and is done.

3. But agents often miss things people find easy. So even when you hand a job off, the trick is to leave **a last step where a person looks it over**.

In one picture

Easy for people, hard for AI — the first tests in 2023



Things people finish in a few minutes, AI finished only one or two times out of ten. Get just one step wrong in the middle and the whole thing goes off track.

Key idea: taking many steps on its own is much harder than giving one answer

Experiment · Pick one

Can you hand this whole job off?

Hand it off

When this one fits

- ✓ Renaming 30 photos for a presentation…
- ✓ Skimming ten book reports you wrote a…
- ✓ AI solves 20 math problems, and at th…

I check it myself

When this one fits

- ✓ Sending money from your club's accoun…
- ✓ Pasting what AI researched straight i…
- ✓ You fell out with a friend, and you p…

The rule

How to choose

- ✓ If the rule is clear and you can undo…
- ✓ If money, something you hand in, or s…

Here are six situations. Think about just one thing — if it goes wrong, can you undo it or not?

Try it yourself in the web lesson · next-token.net/en/learn/day-35/

Quick check

Just three questions

Q1

How is an agent different from a regular chatbot?

① It talks more nicely
② It works without the internet
③ It uses tools on its own to take many steps
④ It can draw pictures too

Q2

What decides whether you can hand a job off?

① How long the job is
② How many words it has
③ How fast the AI is
④ Whether you can undo it if it goes wrong

Q3

What about sending money from an account?

① A person checks it
② Hand it all over
③ Have AI do it twice
④ Fix it later

Know the why, too

Q1

③

A chatbot is done once you ask and it answers. An agent just takes a goal and keeps searching, acting and retrying on its own. That's why people talk about "handing over the w...

Q2

④

It's not length or speed — it's whether you can undo it. You can undo file names; you can't undo money you've sent or a report you've handed in.

Q3

①

Having it do the job twice doesn't make it safe. For things you can't undo, put in a step where a person looks right before it happens.

If you can undo it, hand it off;
if you can't, look at it yourself.



Tomorrow: Protecting your information — that wraps up what AI can do. Starting tomorrow: what to watch out for.