

Google's DeepMind might release ChatGPT competitor Sparrow this year

Article

The news: DeepMind CEO Demis Hassabis said a private beta version of its chatbot Sparrow could be released in 2023, per [The Independent](#).

- In September, the **Alphabet** subsidiary [postponed Sparrow's release](#) over public safety concerns.
- **DeepMind** says **Sparrow** has features that **ChatGPT** lacks, including an ability to cite sources through reinforcement learning.

The announcement coincides with [Microsoft's deepening partnership with OpenAI](#) to integrate ChatGPT into all of its tools.

- On Monday, Microsoft said that it will allow more customers to access OpenAI's tools through the cloud in its **Azure OpenAI Service**, including potentially [ChatGPT Professional](#) via an upcoming trial release, per [Insider](#).
- Companies like **KPMG**, **AI Jazeera**, and **Moveworks** are already using the service.

Much grander ambitions: DeepMind and OpenAI aren't merely working on trendy chatbots. Both companies have their eyes fixed on achieving artificial general intelligence (AGI).

- Part of the impetus for Microsoft's investment in OpenAI is to build AGI.
- "The creation of AGI will be the most important technological development in human history, with the potential to shape the trajectory of humanity," OpenAI CEO **Sam Altman** said in 2019, per [Acceleration Economy](#).

A dystopian future? Both Hassabis and Altman have issued stark warnings alongside their grand plans.

- Altman said AI's ability to generate human-like responses could be abused, warning of "scary moments" ahead and "significant disruptions" to society, per The Independent.
- Meanwhile, Hassabis told [Time](#) that AI is "on the cusp" of [significantly damaging humanity](#).
- With an education system reeling from ChatGPT's release, **AI is already shaping humanity's trajectory**.
- AI companies' acknowledgment of danger is insufficient if not accompanied by more safeguards for the technology.
- **In the absence of precautionary measures, expect more [lawsuits over generative AI](#).**

Biggest AI-Related Risks US Executives Are Currently Facing, Jan 2022

% of respondents



Note: n=500 C-level executives who are involved in decision-making for their organization's adoption, use, and management of AI-enabled tools
Source: Baker McKenzie, "Risky Business: Identifying Blind Spots in Corporate Oversight of Artificial Intelligence" conducted by Coleman Parkes, March 30, 2022

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