Want a humanoid, open source robot for just $3,000? Hugging Face is on it.

You may have noticed he said “robots” plural—that’s because there’s a second one. It’s called Reachy Mini, and it looks like a cute, Wall-E-esque statue bust that can turn its head and talk to the user. Among other things, it’s meant to be used to test AI applications, and it’ll run between $250 and $300.

You can sort of think of these products as the equivalent to a Raspberry Pi, but in robot form and for AI developers—Hugging Face’s main customer base.

Hugging Face has previously released AI models meant for robots, as well as a 3D-printable robotic arm. This year, it announced an acquisition of Pollen Robotics, a company that was working on humanoid robots. Hugging Face’s Cadene came to the company by way of Tesla.

For context on the pricing, Tesla’s Optimus Gen 2 humanoid robot (while admittedly much more advanced, at least in theory) is expected to cost at least $20,000.

There is a lot of investment in robotics like this, but there are still big barriers—and price isn’t the only one. There’s battery life, for example; Unitree’s G1 only runs for about two hours on a single charge.

https://arstechnica.com/ai/2025/05/hugging-face-hopes-to-bring-a-humanoid-robot-to-market-for-just-3000/