## **IJARSCT**



International Journal of Advanced Research in Science, Communication and Technology (IJARSCT)

International Open-Access, Double-Blind, Peer-Reviewed, Refereed, Multidisciplinary Online Journal

Volume 2, Issue 3, December 2022

## Rise of Chatbots and Virtual Assistants in Customer Service and Support

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Abstract: The emergence of chatbots and virtual assistants has caused a major shift in the customer care and support industry in recent years. An overview of the main developments and impacts of the increasing use of these AI-powered technologies in customer service is given in this abstract. Chatbots and virtual assistants have become essential tools for firms looking to improve customer experiences and optimize operations. These automated solutions provide 24/7 accessibility, prompt responses, and effective problem solving, all of which boost client satisfaction. Artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning have made chatbots and virtual assistants more adept at comprehending and responding to client enquiries. Businesses of all sizes are using chatbots and virtual assistants to offer more individualized and effective customer service; these technologies are not simply being used by major corporations. Small firms may now compete globally thanks to the leveling of the playing field created by the democratization of AI-driven customer service technologies.

**Keywords:** Chatbots, Virtual assistants, Customer service, Customer support, AI technology, Natural language processing, Machine learning, Customer experience, Data privacy Human-AI collaboration, Cost savings, Enhanced customer satisfaction, Human oversight.

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