FREE TRADE PLAYBOOK

Local Shops & Restaurants: the top time-savers

~21
hours a week
top claim

6 AI tools that can take busywork off retail shops, auto repair, salons and restaurants. What each one does, what it costs, how to start, and where we got the facts.

Built from 22 local shops and restaurants listings in the BusyWorkBots directory, as of November 1, 2026. 4 of them show a sourced hours number.

#	Tool	What it does	Hours saved	Price	Setup
1	**Maple AI Phone Orders** Answering calls	Answers every call and takes the full order, toppings and all. Sends the order into Toast or Clover so it prints in the kitchen. Takes payment before pickup and answers 'what's the wait?'.	~21 hours a week	Maple Voice $85/mo yearly More on card	Easy
2	**Mira Salon AI Receptionist** Answering calls	Answers salon calls and texts 24/7 and books, moves, or cancels appointments.	20 hours a week (vendor claim)	Monthly add-on to a Mangomint plan More on card	Easy
3	**Stock Sync Bot** Other busywork	Syncs supplier stock to your store, hides sold-out items, and flags low stock.	15+ hours a week	Multi-step Zaps from $19.99/mo More on card	Needs setup
4	**7shifts** Scheduling	Staff scheduling, time clock, and team chat.	Not stated	Check site	Easy
5	**Hello Bella** Booking	Answers client texts, calls and DMs day and night, books the appointment, and asks happy clients for a Google review.	Not stated	Check site	Easy
6	**Photoroom Product Photo Maker** Product photos	Cleans up product photos, swaps backgrounds, and batch-edits listing and social pictures.	Not stated	Pro from $7.50/mo billed yearly More on card	Easy

How we picked these 6. We take up to 3 listings that have a sourced hours number, biggest first. Then one listing per chore, easiest setup first. We make sure you see both free DIY templates and software when the trade has both. We do not test every tool.

How to read hours. Hours are the numbers the maker, an owner, or a case study gave. The source is on each card. “Not stated” means we have no sourced number, so we do not guess one.

How to read price. Price comes from each listing. “Check site” means we could not find a public price. Always confirm on the maker’s site.

TOOLS 1–3 OF 6

1 Maple AI Phone Orders

Answering calls | Setup: Easy | Software or service

What it does Answers every call and takes the full order, toppings and all. Sends the order into Toast or Clover so it prints in the kitchen. Takes payment before pickup and answers 'what's the wait?'.

Good if Phone ringing nonstop during the rush?

Hours saved **~21 hours a week** Mootz Pizzeria + Bar, Detroit; Maple customer story.

Price **Maple Voice $85/mo yearly ($150 monthly, answering and FAQs only); Maple Pro $220/mo yearly ($350 monthly, adds ordering). Check site**

Setup

1. Book a free demo at maple.inc.
2. Connect your POS (Toast, Clover, and others).
3. Give Maple your menu, hours, and FAQs.
4. Forward your phone line to Maple.
5. Listen to the first calls and fix any menu mix-ups.

Source: maple.inc/customer-stories/mootz-pizzeria-bar Our page: busyworkbots.com/bots/maple-ai-takes-pizza-phone-orders/

2 Mira Salon AI Receptionist

Answering calls | Setup: Easy | Software or service

What it does Answers salon calls and texts 24/7 and books, moves, or cancels appointments.

Good if Missing calls and texts while you're with a client?

Hours saved **20 hours a week** One nail salon owner, in the maker's own testimonial.

Price **Monthly add-on to a Mangomint plan; price shown in your Mangomint account** (no setup fee)

Setup

1. You need Mangomint salon software (Mira uses its services, staff, and calendar).
2. Turn on Mira in your Mangomint account (the maker says setup takes under 5 minutes).
3. Tell it, in plain English, your tone and what must always go to a person.
4. Read the conversation dashboard and give feedback when a reply is off.

Source: meetmira.com Our page: busyworkbots.com/bots/mira-salon-ai-receptionist/

3 Stock Sync Bot

Other busywork | Setup: Needs setup | Free DIY template

What it does Syncs supplier stock to your store, hides sold-out items, and flags low stock.

Good if Selling items that are out of stock?

Hours saved **15+ hours a week** 15+ hours per week

Price **Multi-step Zaps from $19.99/mo (Zapier Pro, billed yearly; $29.99/mo billed monthly); a limited free plan (two-step Zaps only) is also listed**

Setup

1. Supplier updates go to a Google Sheet.
2. Sheet updates Shopify stock.
3. Hide items at 0.
4. Slack alert below your low number.
5. Weekly restock reminder.

Source: reddit.com Our page: busyworkbots.com/bots/stock-sync-bot/

TOOLS 4–6 OF 6

4 7shifts

Scheduling | Setup: Easy | Software or service

What it does Staff scheduling, time clock, and team chat.
Good if Building staff schedules by hand?
Hours saved Not stated
Price **Check site**
Setup
1. Sign up.
2. Add staff.
3. Publish a schedule.

Source: 7shifts.com/pricing Our page: busyworkbots.com/bots/7shifts/

5 Hello Bella

Booking | Setup: Easy | Software or service

What it does Answers client texts, calls and DMs day and night, books the appointment, and asks happy clients for a Google review.
Good if Missing client texts and calls after you close?
Hours saved Not stated
Price **Check site**
Setup
1. Book a meeting with Hello Bella so they can size your plan.
2. Give them your service menu, prices, hours and policies (they build Bella for you).
3. Connect your booking calendar, or let Bella run your bookings.
4. Turn on after-hours texting, missed-call text back and review requests.
5. Read Bella's replies for the first week and fix any answers that sound off.

Source: hellobella.io/pricing Our page: busyworkbots.com/bots/hello-bella-ai-front-desk-salons-spas/

6 Photoroom Product Photo Maker

Product photos | Setup: Easy | Software or service

What it does Cleans up product photos, swaps backgrounds, and batch-edits listing and social pictures.
Good if Product photos taking forever?
Hours saved Not stated
Price **Pro from $7.50/mo billed yearly; Max $20.99/mo and Ultra $82.50/mo billed yearly. Free to try. Check site**
Setup
1. Download the Photoroom app or open photoroom.com.
2. Take product photos on your phone in good light.
3. Use Batch to remove backgrounds on up to 10+ photos at once.
4. Pick a background or template that matches your brand.
5. Save and upload straight to your store or social page.

Source: photoroom.com/customer-stories/pam-east-designs
Our page: busyworkbots.com/bots/photoroom-makes-product-photos-fast/

START HERE

Your first 7 days

You do not need all 6 tools. Pick one chore, try one tool, and count the hours before and after.

Day 1	**Count your chores.** Write down the 3 chores that eat the most time. Next to each, write the hours it takes in a normal week. This is your starting line.
Day 2	**Pick one tool.** Start with just one. On this list, Maple AI Phone Orders is the easiest to set up (setup: Easy). Pick the one that fits your biggest chore, not the one with the biggest hours number.
Day 3	**Check price and claims.** Open the source link on the tool's card. Ask the maker for the price in writing. Remember: hours saved are the maker's or owner's numbers, not ours.
Day 4	**Try it small.** Use it on a few real jobs only. If it writes messages, read every one before it goes out.
Day 5	**Fix the words.** Change anything that does not sound like you. Write down every mistake it made.
Day 6	**Run it for a normal day.** Keep a person ready to step in. Note how long the chore took this time.
Day 7	**Count again.** Compare to Day 1. Keep it, change it, or drop it. Then pick your next chore.

Test it before you buy it. Free one-page kits with questions to ask the maker, a test script, and a 7-day trial plan:

- AI receptionist kit busyworkbots.com/test-kits/ai-receptionist/
- Scheduling and booking kit busyworkbots.com/test-kits/scheduling-booking/
- Restaurant phone ordering kit busyworkbots.com/test-kits/restaurant-phone-ordering/

How to count your hours: for one normal week, write down each time you do the chore and how many minutes it took. Add them up.

NEXT STEP

Not sure where to start? We can help.

Free Busywork Audit

Pick your industry and the chores that eat your week. Get a one-page report of tools from our directory, with the hours each listing reports. Free. No email needed.

Take the free audit →

https://busyworkbots.com/free-audit/

Want it set up for you?

TimeGentic runs BusyWorkBots. Book a Free Profit Leak Check and we will look at where your business loses time and money.

Book Free Profit Leak Check →

https://timegentic.ai

Heads up: TimeGentic LLC runs BusyWorkBots, so the Profit Leak Check is our own service. Some links on busyworkbots.com are affiliate links; the links in this PDF go to each maker's own pages. We do not test every tool, and hours saved are the numbers given by each source. Prices change, so check the maker's site.

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