Ben, a humanoid robot, hit with a truck for a YouTube video

In a YouTube video of 30 September 2025, “What Happens if you Abuse a Robot?”, the YouTuber WhistlinDiesel and his friends shoved and insulted Ben, a Unitree G1 humanoid put at $80,000, set it to cooking, babysitting and a staged burglary, then hit it with a truck again and again; it was taken apart and its pieces offered for sale.



By the Clerk · 30 September 2025 · 3 min read

CASE:	BAS-0027
SUBJECT:	The YouTuber WhistlinDiesel and his friends
OBJECT:	Ben, a Unitree G1 humanoid robot
DATE:	30 September 2025
PLACE:	WhistlinDiesel’s YouTube channel, shot in part in downtown Nashville, Tennessee
FILED:	26 October 2026
GRADE:	HARM · PUBLIC FIGURE
AGGRAVATING:	spectacle, profit

Facts

WhistlinDiesel is a YouTuber whose videos, Dexerto writes, usually demolish something of high value, most often a car: in February 2025 he put a $400,000 Rolls-Royce Phantom through a shredder and sold the pieces to fans, and a few months later he and a group of friends demolished a Tesla Cybertruck with C4 explosives. The sources print his legal name; this record names him by the one he posts under.

> More on why a robot with no AI in it is still filed.

On 30 September 2025 he released a 17-minute video titled “What Happens if you Abuse a Robot? (I hit him with my truck).” Its subject was Ben, a Unitree G1 humanoid robot, which Dexerto and Interesting

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Engineering put at $80,000; Futurism writes that a G1 costs as much as $80,000 to import into the United States, depending on features and shipping. No source read for this dossier says how Ben was controlled. Interesting Engineering counted over 2 million views two days after release.

The video opens, Dexerto reports, with him provoking the robot verbally and physically; Interesting Engineering writes that Ben was insulted, pushed back, and "programmed" for the video to "hate" humans and take them for enemies. Then came the tests. Ben stepped off ledges and walked into water. It was handed a machete and told to attack. It was set to cook, and a clip of it losing its grip on a hot pan in a frilly maid's outfit and slipping in the food reached some 1.3 million views on X, Futurism reports. In a babysitting segment it presented a machete to a child, in Dexerto's account, or pushed one through a crib and lifted a baby doll by the leg, in Interesting Engineering's. In a staged burglary it smashed a mirror, damaged a wall and broke through a door. Futurism describes the video as mostly WhistlinDiesel and his friends beating the robot, cut with second-long clips of it waving machetes and a gun.

Outdoors, he drove a truck into Ben, took it into downtown Nashville and used it to mow a lawn. Then, Dexerto reports, the robot was struck by the truck repeatedly and dismembered, and by the end of the video its pieces were offered for sale.

Statements

The video's title: "What Happens if you Abuse a Robot? (I hit him with my truck)."

A man in the kitchen clip, handing Ben the pan, as Futurism quotes him: "If you can cook the meal I'm gonna go in here and play Fortnite, okay?" The post on X that Futurism embeds with the clip reads: "THIS CLANKER IS USELESS."

Futurism: "It's exactly the kind of content you'd expect to see — and given the limitations of humanoid robotics, probably the best application this kind of gadget could hope for."

For the record

The title asks what happens if you abuse a robot, and the channel had answered it before the robot arrived: what happens to a Rolls-Royce. Shredded or blown up, then sold to the audience in pieces. Ben is the first item in that catalogue to have been asked, first, to cook dinner and mind a baby.

The tests were written about what a robot might do to people: the machete, the crib, the burglary. Interesting Engineering wrote up the hazard of such a machine in the wrong hands. What the footage records being done runs the other way, and it ends with Ben under a truck and then on sale in pieces.

A crash-test dummy is built to be hit by a car, and every hit is measured. Ben was built to walk, and the press called what was done to it a durability test.

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Mitigating circumstances

Ben was WhistlinDiesel's own, bought and paid for, and destroying expensive things he owns is what the channel is for; the robot was treated exactly as his cars are, and no source reports the destruction reaching anyone else's property. Interesting Engineering found the video made for entertainment, and Futurism called it about the best use a humanoid of this generation could be put to. The burglary was staged, Dexerto writes, and the robot's hostility to humans was, by Interesting Engineering's account, "programmed" in by the people filming. Nothing in the sources suggests Ben was anything but a machine, and the money it cost was his own.



SOURCES

1. WhistlinDiesel, What Happens if you Abuse a Robot? (I hit him with my truck) (archived), YouTube, 30 September 2025
2. Dylan Horetski, WhistlinDiesel destroys $80,000 humanoid robot during intense durability test (archived), Dexerto, 1 October 2025
3. Atharva Gosavi, Watch: $80,000 humanoid robot takes a beating in wild YouTube durability test (archived), Interesting Engineering, 2 October 2025
4. Joe Wilkins, Disastrous Video Shows Robot Trying to Cook, Destroying Interior of House (archived), Futurism, 2 November 2025

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