



The Mobile Robot Company

Knowledge Center — Creating the First Task · 2026-08-04

<https://info.mobilerobot.com/documentation/getting-started/creating-the-first-task>

Creating the First Task

A task tells the J1600 where to deliver a pallet and what to do afterwards. This page walks through the first delivery from manual pickup to autonomous drop. You need at least one saved location first — see [Saving the First Location](https://info.mobilerobot.com/documentation/getting-started/saving-the-first-location/) (<https://info.mobilerobot.com/documentation/getting-started/saving-the-first-location/>).

Running the first delivery

1. **Pick up a supported pallet manually.** Pickup is always a [manual operation](https://info.mobilerobot.com/documentation/user-guides/manual-operation/) (<https://info.mobilerobot.com/documentation/user-guides/manual-operation/>); use the tiller and lift controls as you would on a conventional electric pallet jack.
2. **Open task creation** on the 15-inch touchscreen.
3. **Choose the task type and the saved drop destination** — for example "Drop Pallet at Location" and the point you saved.
4. **Choose what happens after delivery:**
 - return to the origin or operator;
 - go to another saved point or a parking location;
 - stop and wait at the destination.
5. **Execute the task.**
6. **Confirm automatic mode.** The robot asks to [enter automatic mode](https://info.mobilerobot.com/support/troubleshooting/robot-will-not-enter-autonomous-mode/) (<https://info.mobilerobot.com/support/troubleshooting/robot-will-not-enter-autonomous-mode/>); you confirm with the physical LED start/go button.
7. **Step away.** The interface instructs you to step clear before the robot moves.
8. The J1600 [travels autonomously](https://info.mobilerobot.com/documentation/user-guides/autonomous-operation/) (<https://info.mobilerobot.com/documentation/user-guides/autonomous-operation/>), avoids obstacles on the way, drops the pallet at floor level, and performs the post-delivery action you selected.

The most common task in practice is exactly this pattern: [manual pickup, autonomous delivery](https://info.mobilerobot.com/applications/scenarios/manual-pickup-and-autonomous-delivery/) (<https://info.mobilerobot.com/applications/scenarios/manual-pickup-and-autonomous-delivery/>), floor-level drop, and return to origin. The route can be a few meters or well over 100 meters — the concept is the same.

What to expect while it runs

- White lights indicate manual mode; blue floor-light strips in automatic mode show the protected area around the robot.
- The [protective safety field adjusts with speed](https://info.mobilerobot.com/safety-compliance/safety-functions/safety-field-adjustment/) and expands as the robot travels faster.
- You can take over at any time by grabbing or moving the tiller or using the stop controls. See [Manual and Autonomous Modes](https://info.mobilerobot.com/documentation/getting-started/manual-and-autonomous-modes/).

Task rules to remember

- [Pallet pickup is always manual](https://info.mobilerobot.com/support/troubleshooting/task-and-location-problems/).
- Autonomous delivery is at floor level. Picks and drops above floor level, up to 1,600 mm, are manual capabilities.
- Autonomous driving requires [level floors](https://info.mobilerobot.com/documentation/installation/floor-requirements/) (0% gradeability in automatic mode).

Beyond the first task

The J1600 supports several named task patterns — [Boomerang](https://info.mobilerobot.com/applications/scenarios/deliver-and-return/), [Simple ABC](https://info.mobilerobot.com/applications/scenarios/a-to-b-to-c-transport/), [drop and wait](https://info.mobilerobot.com/applications/scenarios/deliver-and-wait/), [deliver and park](https://info.mobilerobot.com/applications/scenarios/deliver-and-park/), [come to me](https://info.mobilerobot.com/applications/scenarios/come-to-me/), and [multi-point flows](https://info.mobilerobot.com/applications/use-cases/multi-point-pallet-transport/). See [Task Management](https://info.mobilerobot.com/documentation/user-guides/task-management/) for all of them.