

Automation and agent choice

Compare three ways to run the same workflow.

A step-by-step choice between rules and model decisions

A record of authority and stopping conditions

A completed reporting comparison

A free worksheet from ailevrg.com/guides/ai-agents-vs-automation

Map the job first. Mark where the next step follows a known rule and where it depends on information discovered during the job.

01 Job

Start and useful finish

Normal route and variation

Known rules for each step

Interpretation or investigation needed

02 Design

Steps handled by fixed software

Bounded model tasks

Choices an agent would make

Evidence supporting those choices

03 Limits

Authorised tools and actions

Approval and escalation points

Time, calls and retry limits

Missing or contradictory source rule

04 Comparison

Same examples for each design

Accepted result and review effort

Running cost and upkeep

Chosen route and reason

Three reporting designs

Invented teaching example. No client outcome is claimed.

Fixed

Collect approved monthly inputs and route them to a reviewer.

Ai-assisted

Add a bounded draft-observation step with source evidence.

Agent

Permit selection of additional sources during a defined investigation.

Boundary

All three preserve client permissions and human approval of the report.

The designs are invented; no comparative performance result is claimed.