AUTO GATES

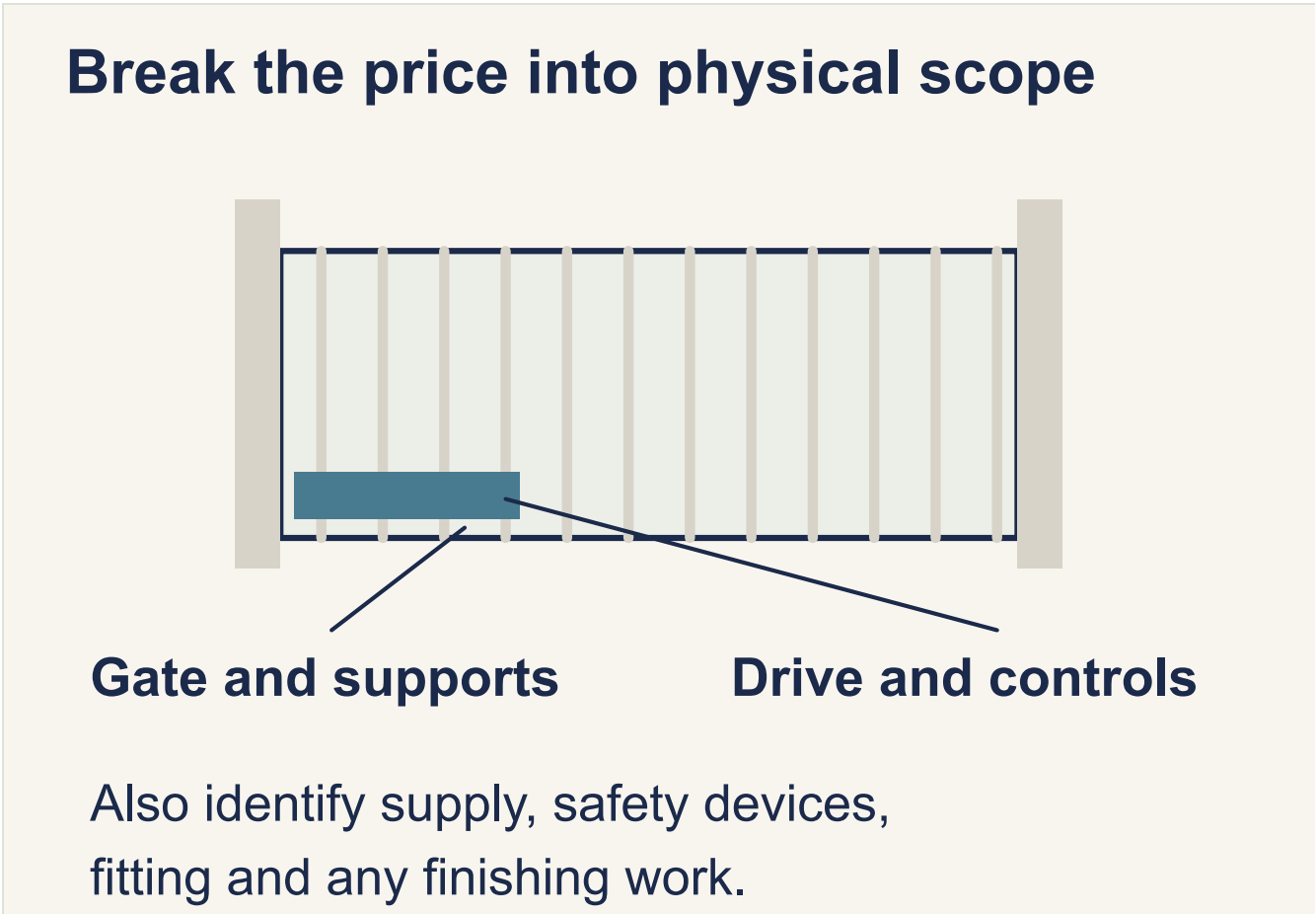
Auto Gate Cost in Singapore: New Gate vs Motor Upgrade

By DirectHome Team Updated 16 September 2026 7 min read Explore our auto gates service ↗

An auto-gate budget needs to distinguish a motor retrofit from a complete new gate. Keeping a sound gate avoids paying for a replacement panel, but the motor, protection devices, cabling and repairs still need a measured quotation. Compare the same opening, equipment and site work before choosing.

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Separate the gate and supports from the drive, controls, supply and fitting work so the price has a defined physical scope.

Key takeaways

At a glance

Item	Details	Scope
Existing gate retained	Retrofit	Condition and compatibility must be assessed
Fabrication included	New gate	Compare material, finish, dimensions and operator
Quote separately	Site works	Posts, drainage, cabling, removal and reinstatement

- A motor-only retrofit and a complete new gate are different scopes; compare them separately.
- The quote should identify the operator, fabrication, groundwork, electrical work and installed safety design.

- Swing and sliding suitability depends on the driveway's clearance, slope and lateral space.
- Maintenance and future parts support belong in the ownership-cost comparison.

Budget Examples: A New Gate or a Motor Retrofit

Compare these separate scopes using measured quotations. Confirm GST, operator count, safety devices and exclusions.

Scope	Price to request	Keep separate
Basic swing-arm motor retrofit	Itemised quotation required	Existing panel retained; confirm number of operators and included protection.
Premium Italian swing-arm retrofit	Itemised quotation required	Exact model, controls and accessories.
Standard sliding-motor retrofit	Itemised quotation required	Track, rollers and supporting work if needed.
New painted mild-steel gate plus motor	Itemised quotation required	Measured opening, gate design and site works.
New aluminium gate plus motor	Itemised quotation required	Finish, dimensions and any electrical or structural extras.

A motor supply-and-fitting price does not establish the cost of a new gate. Ask for the panel, motor, controls, protection devices and site preparation to be identified separately so you can see what retaining the existing gate would save.

The useful saving from retaining a gate is the fabrication you no longer need. It does not mean every old gate can be motorised for the lowest figure. If the posts move or the hinges bind, that work still belongs in the project; otherwise the new motor inherits the old problem.

Auto gate cost starts with the scope: replacing an operator on a sound existing gate is a different job from fabricating a new gate and rebuilding its supports. State which option is being quoted before comparing the totals.

For vehicle and pedestrian access, ask whether controls and accessories can actually be shared. Separate openings may need separate equipment and protection. There is no fixed multiplier that prices a second gate for every property.

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Where The Money Actually Goes

What to establish for each part of the quote.

Item	What to establish
Gate and operator	Material, dimensions, model and rated use
Controls and safety	Controller, protective devices and commissioning
Electrical and site works	Supply, supports, drainage and reinstatement
Tax and exclusions	Whether the total includes applicable GST and all agreed work

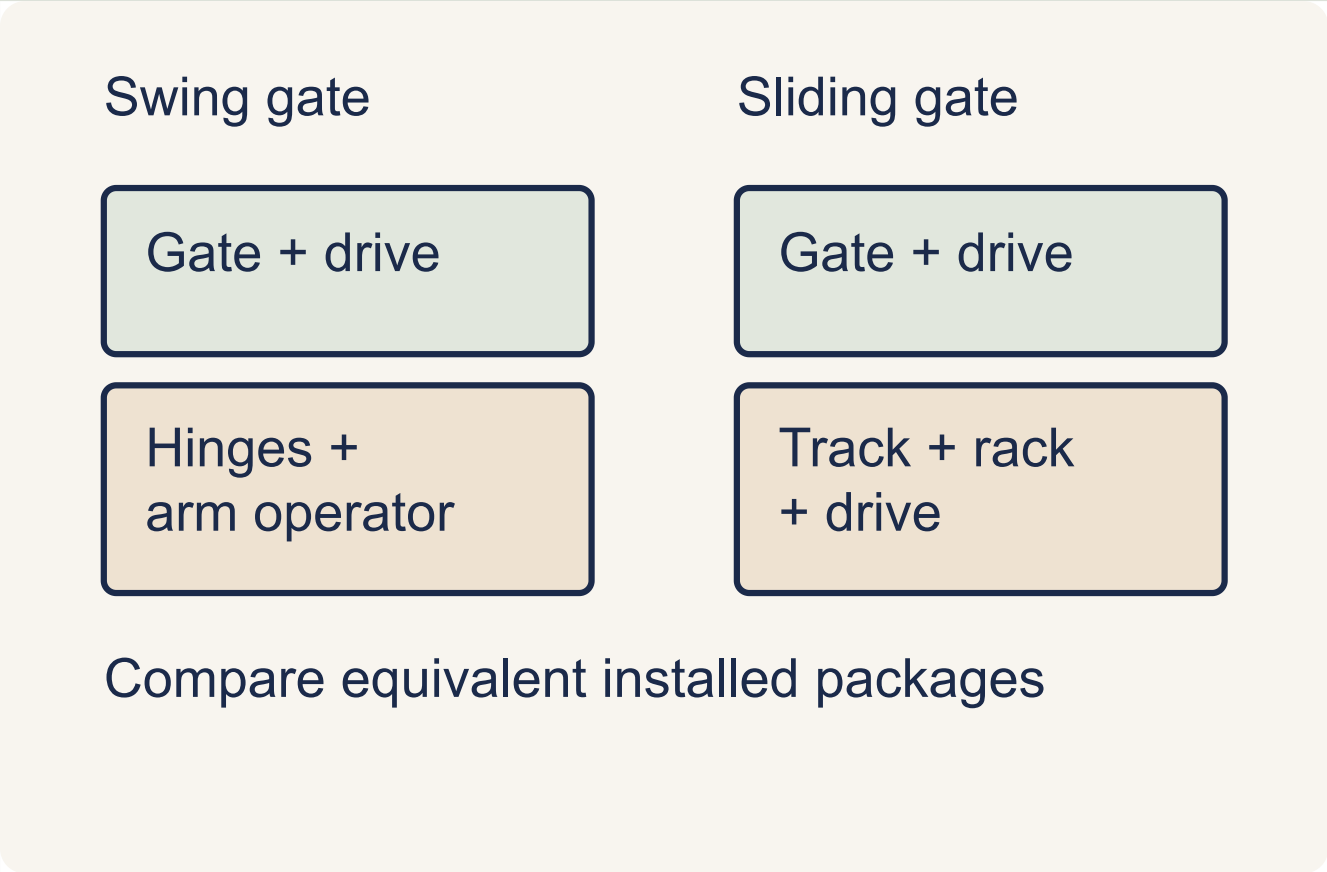
Electrical cabling may be a separate item, depending on the route and what the gate package includes. If your gate-and-motor quote expressly excludes the cabling, add the cabling price you're quoted to get a subtotal before other extras or tax. If the cabling is already included, your total stays as quoted. Count each item once.

An itemised quotation should separate the gate fabrication, operator, control equipment, installed safety design, electrical supply and labour. Include removal, disposal and making good where required. Ask which accessories are bundled so they are not counted twice.

Custom panels and finishes can change fabrication cost, while difficult access or damaged posts can change installation cost. Keep those differences visible. Ask whether the quoted total includes applicable GST rather than adding a fixed tax allowance unrelated to the invoice.

The fabrication is the moving panel and its supporting frame. The operator supplies movement; the controller interprets access commands and protective signals. Posts, hinges, rollers or a track carry and guide the gate, while the electrical supply powers the equipment safely. Retaining a sound panel can remove much of the fabrication work, but a new operator still needs those supports and controls to work correctly. A retrofit quote should therefore explain retained condition as well as new parts.

Swing vs Sliding Cost Difference



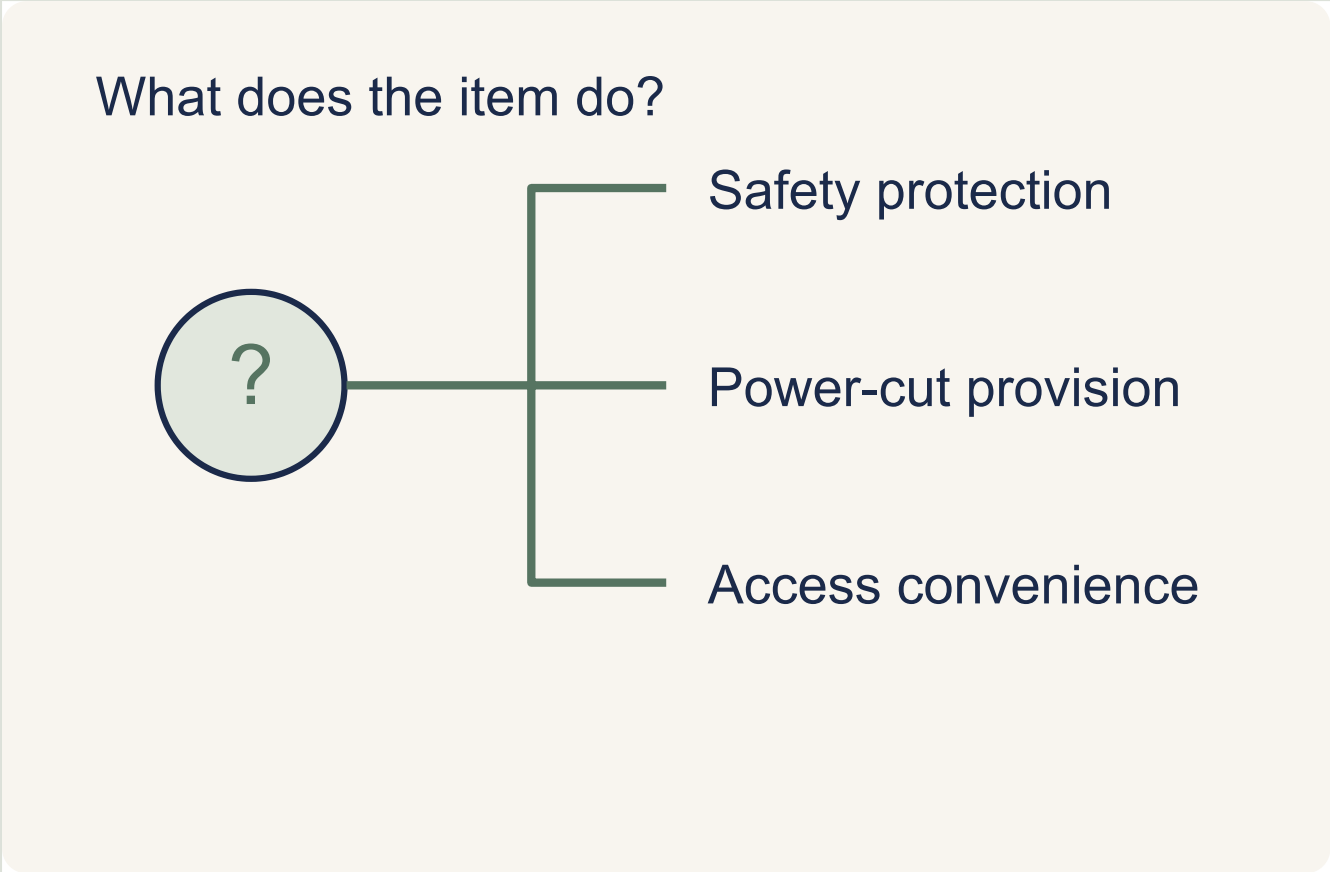
Different hinges, drives, tracks and racks change the work included in equivalent swing and sliding packages.

A sliding installation may need track or cantilever support work and lateral clearance. A swing design needs a clear arc and supports suited to its loads. Which costs more depends on what already exists and what the site needs, rather than a fixed sliding-gate surcharge.

Choose the layout that fits the driveway before narrowing the operator. A lower-price design that conflicts with parking or a slope can create expensive changes later. Use the swing-versus-sliding comparison to prepare the site questions.

A swing operator turns a leaf through an arc, so the location of its fixings and the changing leverage matter. A sliding operator moves a gate along a supported path; its rack, rollers and guides must keep movement controlled. Neither system should rely on motor force to drag a badly aligned gate through its travel. Mechanical repairs that restore smooth, stable movement can be necessary before a new operator is commissioned, and those repairs belong in the price comparison.

Add-Ons That Are Worth It



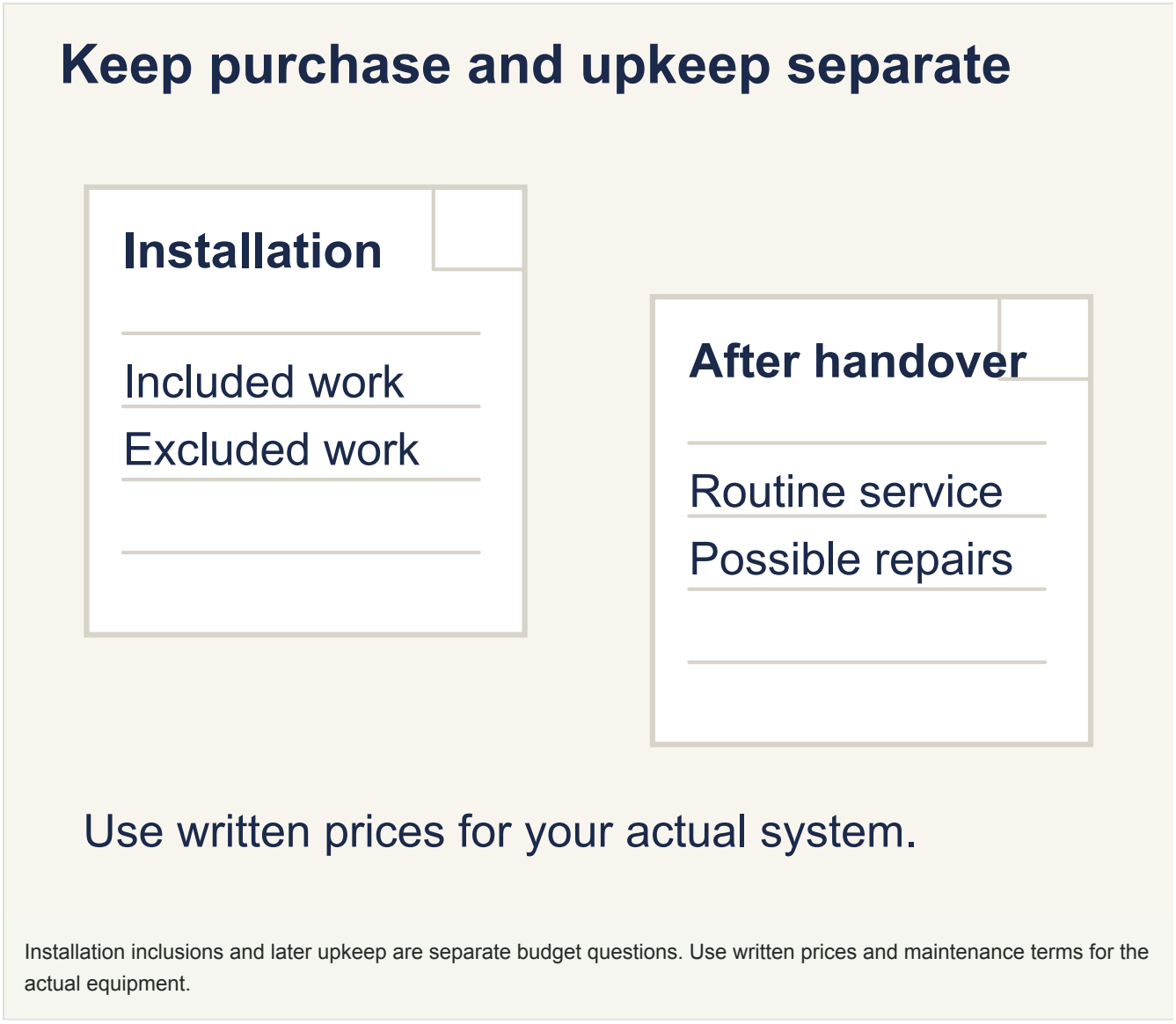
Safety protection, power-cut provision and access convenience perform different jobs in the quotation.

Include the installed safety design in the core scope. Photocells can detect interruptions along their beam, but do not protect every trapping point or detect every child. The installer must assess the complete movement area and select suitable protection, including force control or safety edges where needed.

Price convenience features separately: compatible battery backup, additional access controls and connected modules. Ask what each does during loss of power or internet. Do not let an attractive app package displace necessary mechanical repairs or protective equipment.

> **Assess the complete moving gate**
>
> Photocells are only part of protection. Have a competent installer assess trapping points, forces and protective devices; never use a person to test a moving gate.

Ongoing Costs



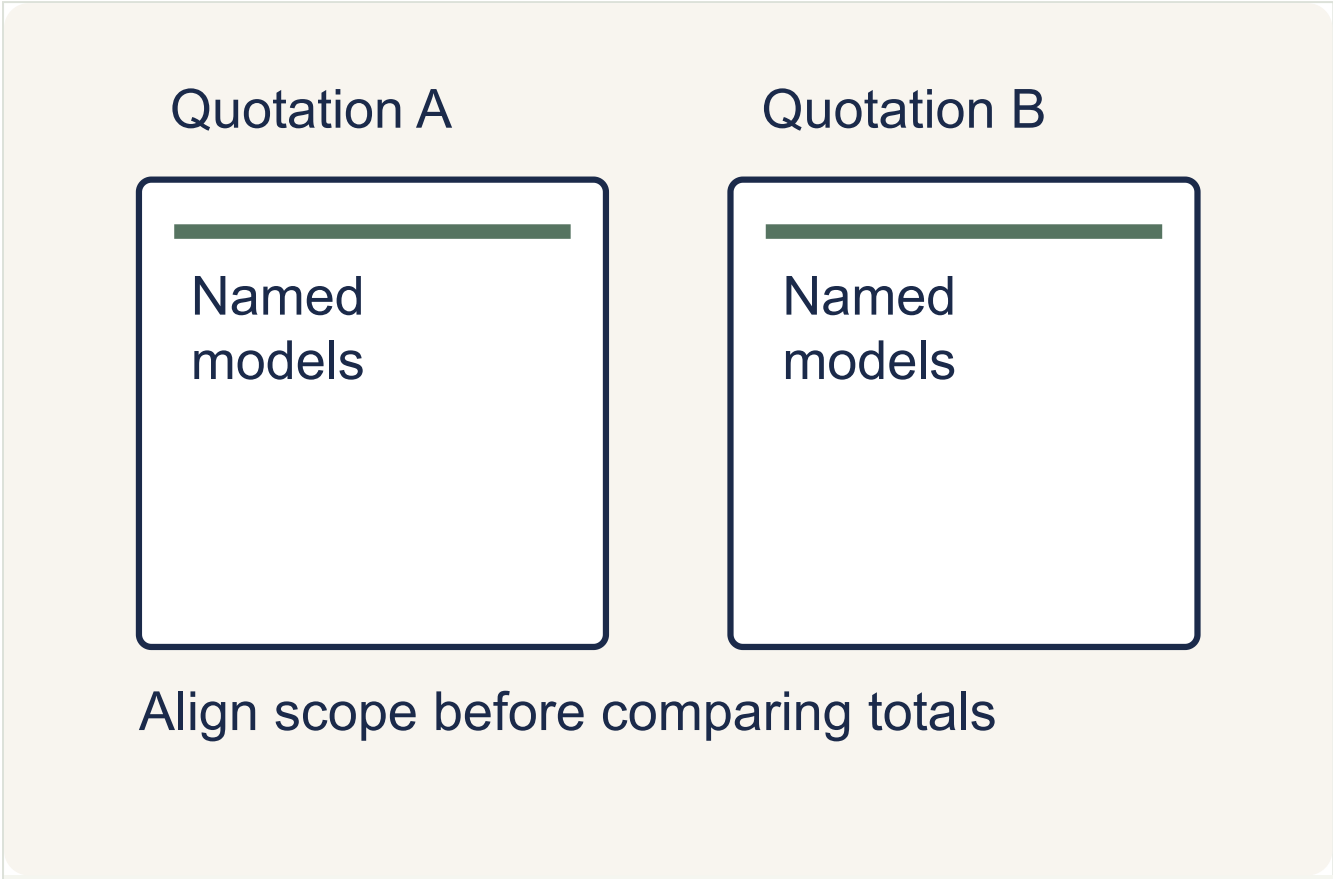
Installation inclusions and later upkeep are separate budget questions. Use written prices and maintenance terms for the actual equipment.

Obtain the model's maintenance schedule and a current service quote. Separate routine visits from emergency call-outs, batteries and excluded replacement parts. Frequency depends on the equipment, use and conditions; one annual price does not describe every gate.

Ask how worn parts are identified and whether replacements are available locally. A forecast ownership cost should show its assumptions instead of promising a fixed motor lifespan. Keep service records with the operating and emergency instructions.

> Plan the checks and servicing the gate will need after installation. auto gate maintenance checklist →

How To Avoid Overpaying



Align named equipment and included work before comparing quotation totals.

Compare itemised proposals for equivalent work and ask contractors to explain substantial differences. An unusually low figure may reflect a smaller scope, different component or omitted work; price alone is not proof of a defective installation.

Send DirectHome the gate dimensions, existing equipment details and safe photographs to discuss the scope. Confirm the contracting party, total price, exclusions and maintenance arrangements before accepting any proposal.

Frequently asked questions

How much does an auto gate cost in Singapore?

An auto-gate budget needs to distinguish a motor retrofit from a complete new gate. Keeping a sound gate avoids paying for a replacement panel, but the motor, protection devices, cabling and repairs still need a measured quotation. Compare the same opening, equipment and site work before choosing.

Why are sliding gates more expensive than swing gates?

Sliding gates can involve additional track or cantilever support work, but the cost difference is site-specific. Compare the full scope and confirm lateral clearance, slope and drainage. Neither type is automatically the cheaper complete installation.

What ongoing costs should I budget for an auto gate?

Ask for the manufacturer's maintenance schedule and a service quote identifying routine visits, call-outs, batteries and excluded parts. Parts availability and use affect ownership cost; a fixed replacement age is not a guarantee.

Are photocell safety sensors included in an auto gate quote?

Protective devices should be part of the assessed installation scope. Photocells alone do not protect every trapping point. Have the installer explain the complete safety design, commissioning checks and owner instructions.

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