AUTO GATES

How to keep auto gate repair costs down

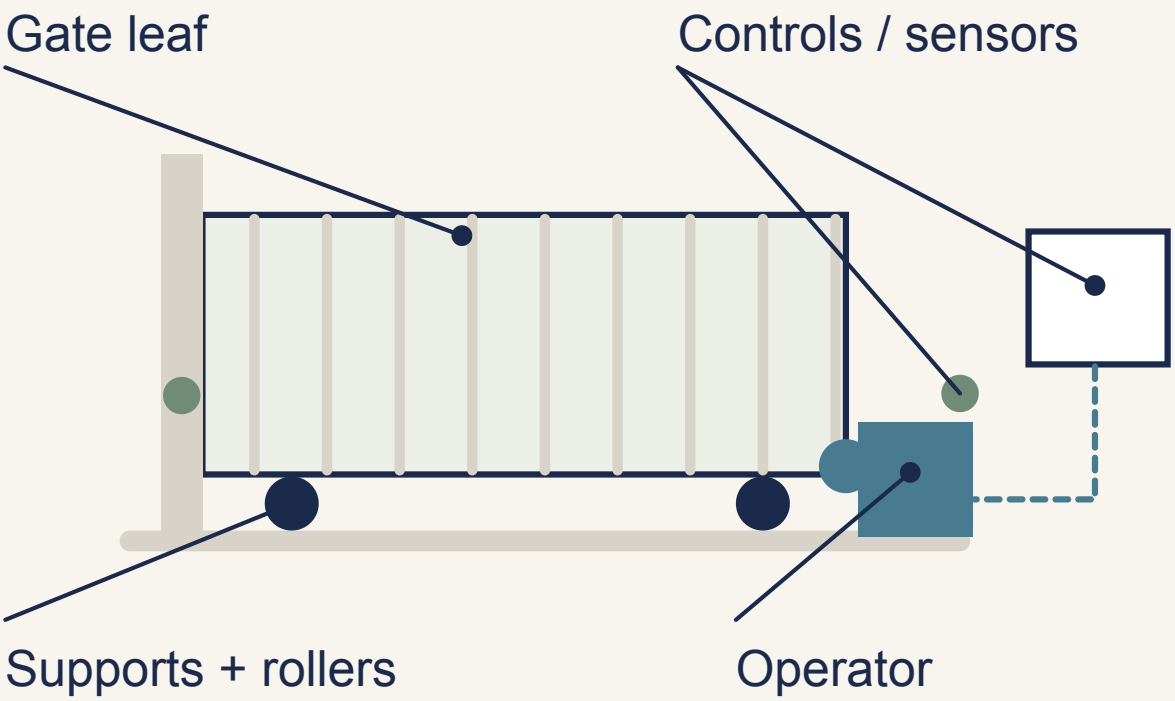
By DirectHome Editorial Updated 12 October 2026 8 min read Explore our auto gates service ↗

The cheapest auto gate repair is the one that fixes what actually failed. A sensor knocked out of line, a remote that needs pairing again or a sticking roller is a much smaller job than a new motor. And a new motor will strain just like the old one if the gate itself drags.

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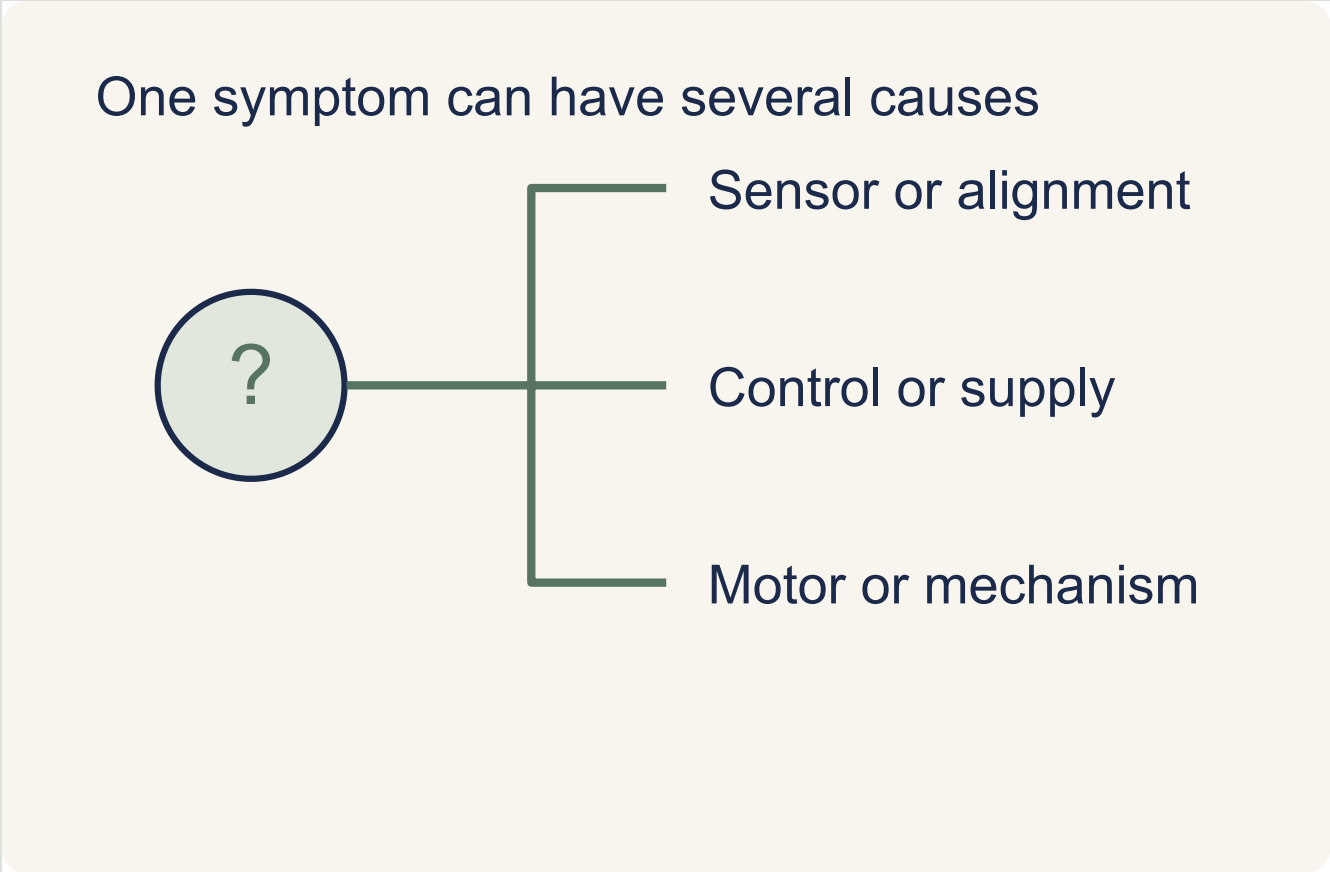


Locate the work in the gate assembly



A repair can involve the gate and its rollers, the motor unit, or the controls and sensors. A sticking roller or a sensor out of line is a much smaller job than a new motor.

Repair options by part



The same visible symptom may come from a sensor, control, supply or mechanical fault.

Compare the repair scope after the fault is diagnosed

Possible scope	What you are buying	What can change the bill
Adjustment	Re-aligning a sensor, freeing a sticking roller or re-setting where the gate stops	Whether the component is sound or needs replacement.
Remote or receiver	A new remote paired to the gate, or a new receiver with its remotes	Whether only a handset or the receiver and controls change.
Control board	A new control board fitted and set up for the motors and sensors you keep	Compatibility with retained motors and safety equipment.
Motor replacement	A new motor unit fitted to the gate and set up	One unit or a pair, brackets, wiring and mechanical repairs.
Gate mechanism or support repair	Fixing the hinges, rollers, track or supports	Condition, access and whether associated automation work is needed.

Singapore installers advertise a standard visit to find the fault from about **S$50 to S$250** on their own websites (checked October 2026). Those are advertised starting prices, not quotes. The real number for your repair is the written quote you get once someone has found the fault.

That quote should cover the fault found, the parts, the labour and testing the gate afterwards. When several parts need work, price a new gate or motor alongside the repair so you can see both totals.

Ask what the attendance charge includes before booking. Diagnosis, a return visit, out-of-hours attendance and repair labour may be separate items. If the first visit is credited against the work, have the final total show the credit once.

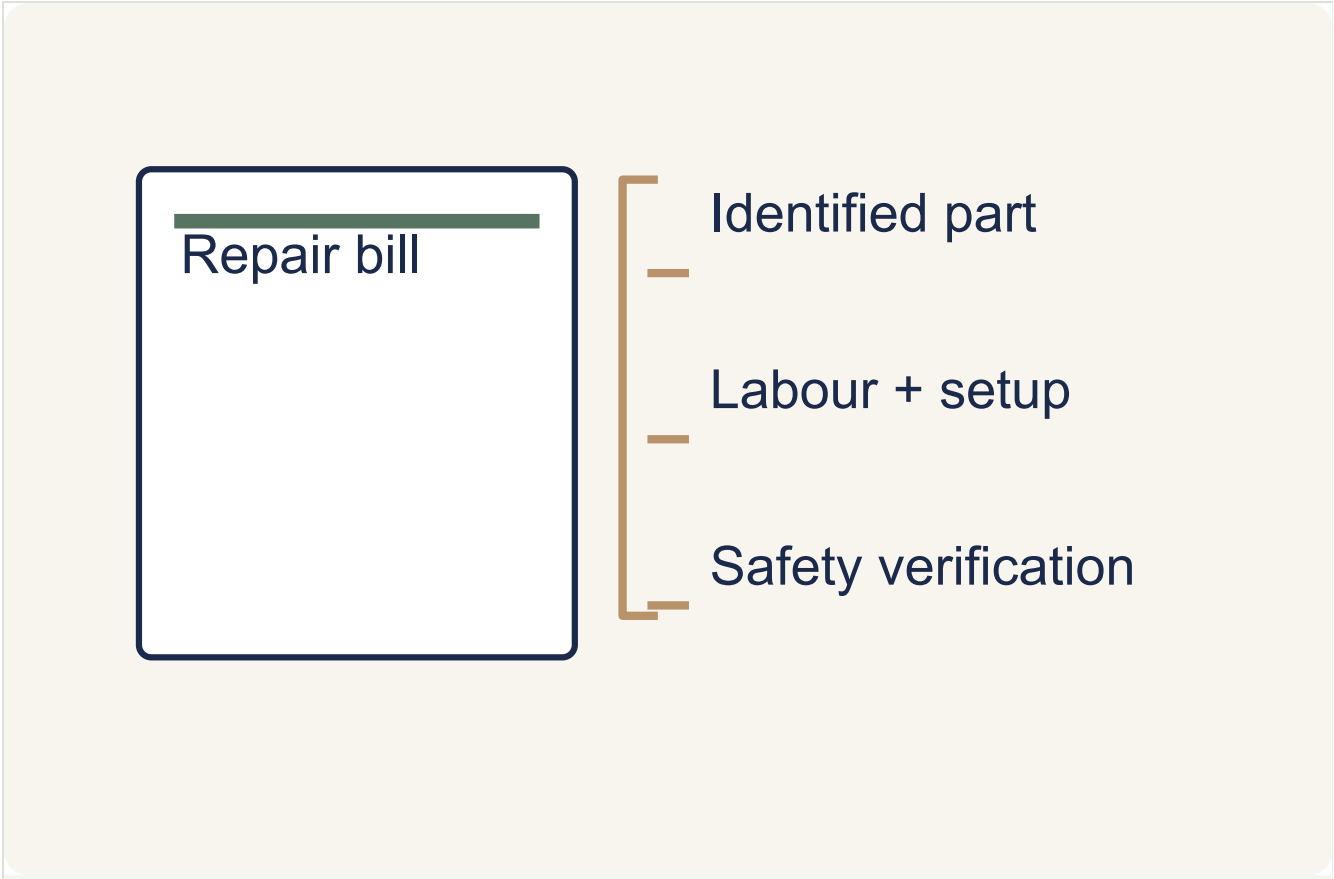
A remote replacement is a smaller scope than replacing a receiver and remotes together, but only if the existing receiver works and accepts the new handset. Ask whether the quote includes programming and deletion of a lost remote from the system where the equipment supports that function.

The same symptom can lead to different bills. A gate that will not close may be reacting to an obstruction, a false input or mechanical resistance. A technician should identify the finding that separates those causes before a motor is ordered.

Until then, stop using the gate and keep everyone out of its path. The technician switches off the power and secures the gate before anyone looks closely.

Use the common auto gate fault guide to describe what you observed and the auto gate buying guide if the assessment points to replacement. Neither a symptom list nor a photo sent from home can confirm which part has failed.

What actually drives an auto-gate repair bill



A repair quote should name the part, the labour to fit and set it up, and the safety checks once the work is done.

Ask why the part can't just be adjusted or re-set, and what exactly the replacement includes. A motor that struggles because the gate binds needs the mechanical problem resolved as well, or the replacement may face the same load.

The technical gate guidance from the UK Health and Safety Executive explains why safety depends on the complete combination of motor, controller, sensors and the installation. It is technical guidance, not Singapore law. A substitute component needs to work with the retained system, including its protective functions; matching supply voltage alone does not establish that.

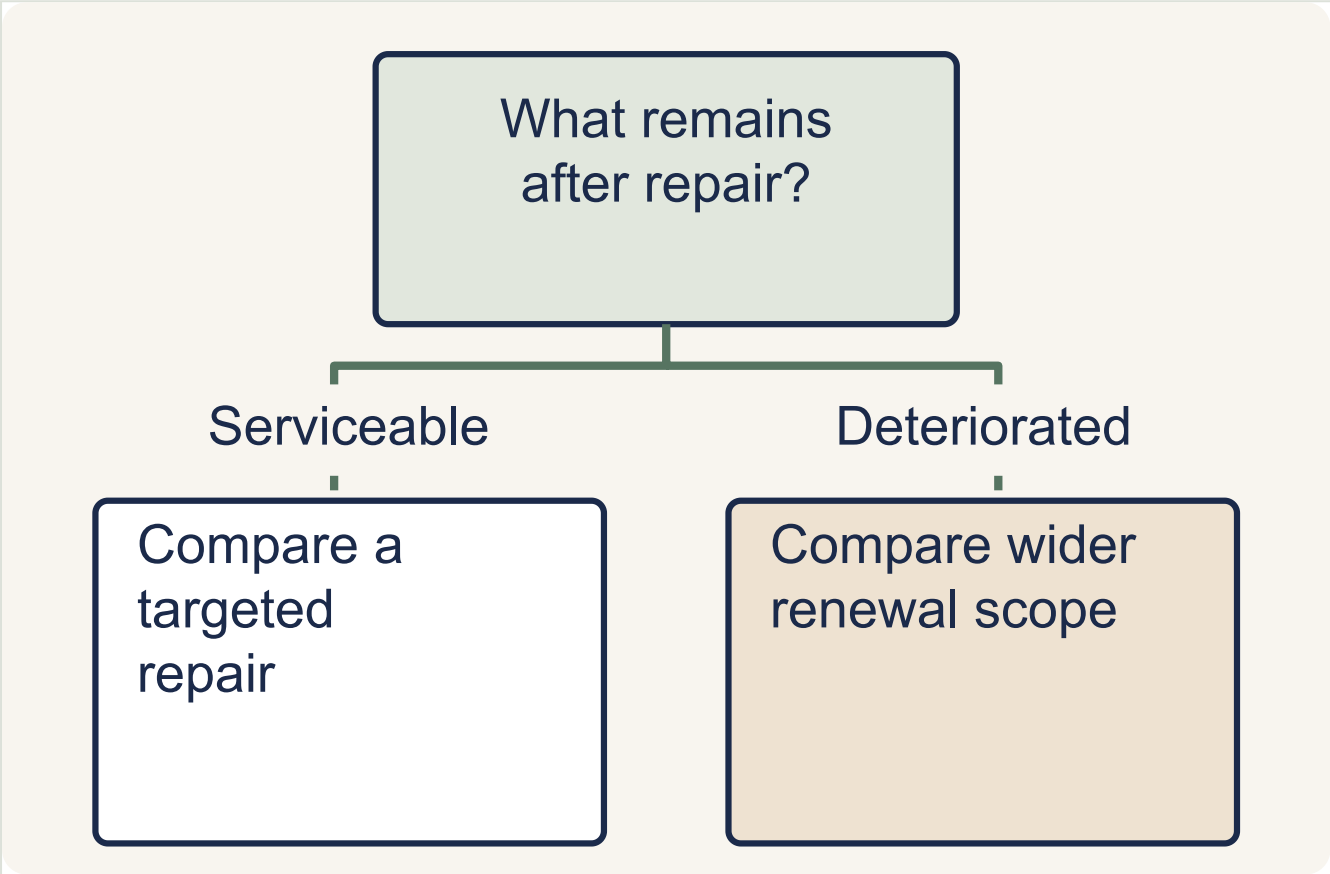
If the repair changes electrical wiring or the electrical installation, the Energy Market Authority advises using a Licensed Electrical Worker. Confirm that electrical scope separately from the gate mechanism repair.

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When Repair Is Better Value Than Replacement



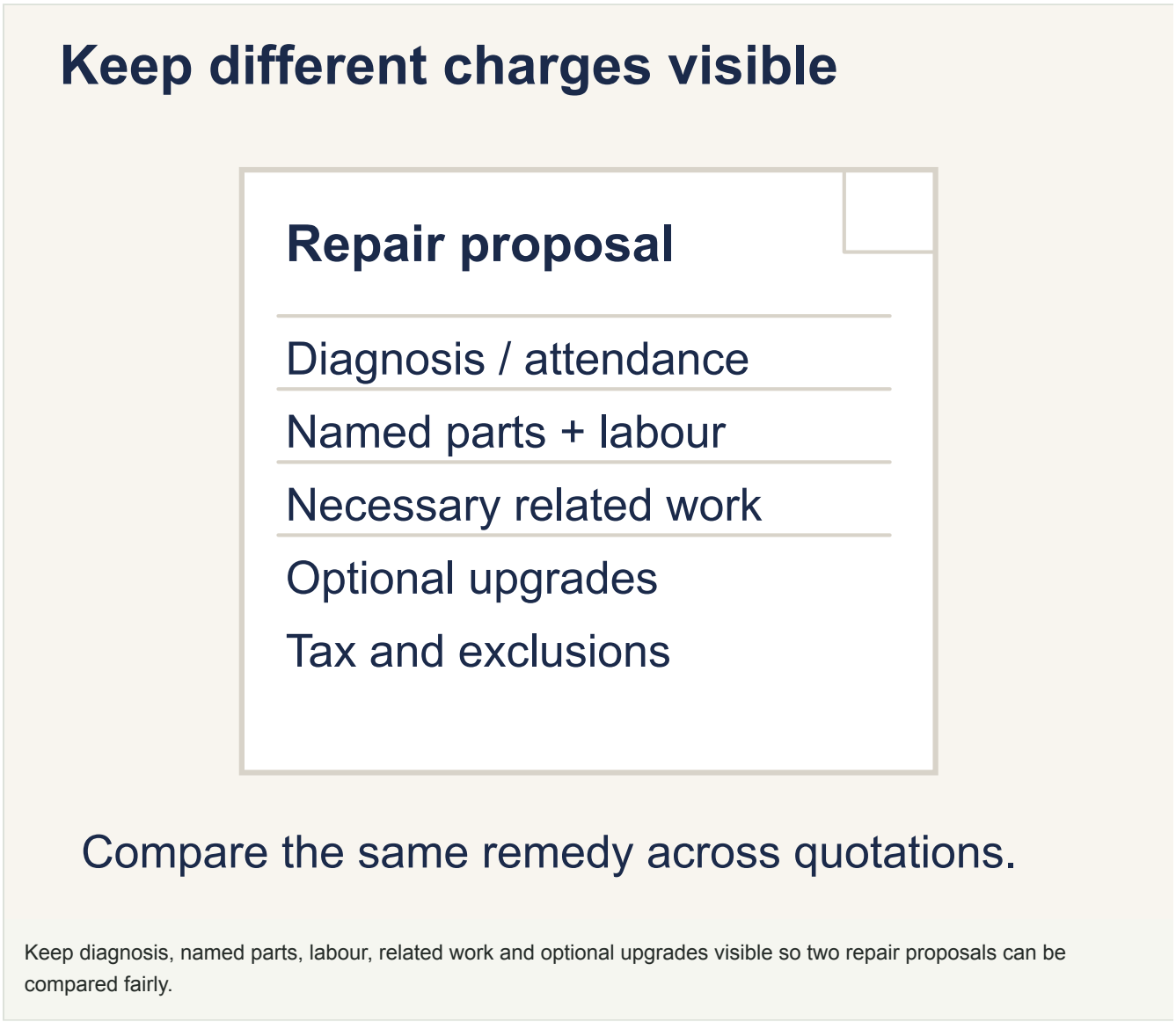
If the parts left in place are in good order, a targeted repair can make sense; if several are worn, price a wider renewal too.

Compare three options only where the technician considers them viable: adjust or repair the existing component, replace the failed component while retaining the gate, or renew the wider automation. The first buys the least new equipment, but it's only the best value if the parts you keep are sound and spares are still available.

A targeted repair makes sense when it resolves an isolated fault and leaves a serviceable system with obtainable parts. Wider replacement deserves consideration when several components are deteriorated, parts are unsupported or the required safety work extends beyond the failed item. Ask the technician to name anything else that is worn, so you decide on the gate's real condition.

A history of repeated breakdowns is a reason to investigate the pattern, not proof that the whole gate is finished. If the same symptom returns after each repair, check whether the diagnosis addressed its cause. The price of the next component alone cannot answer that.

How to read the quote line by line



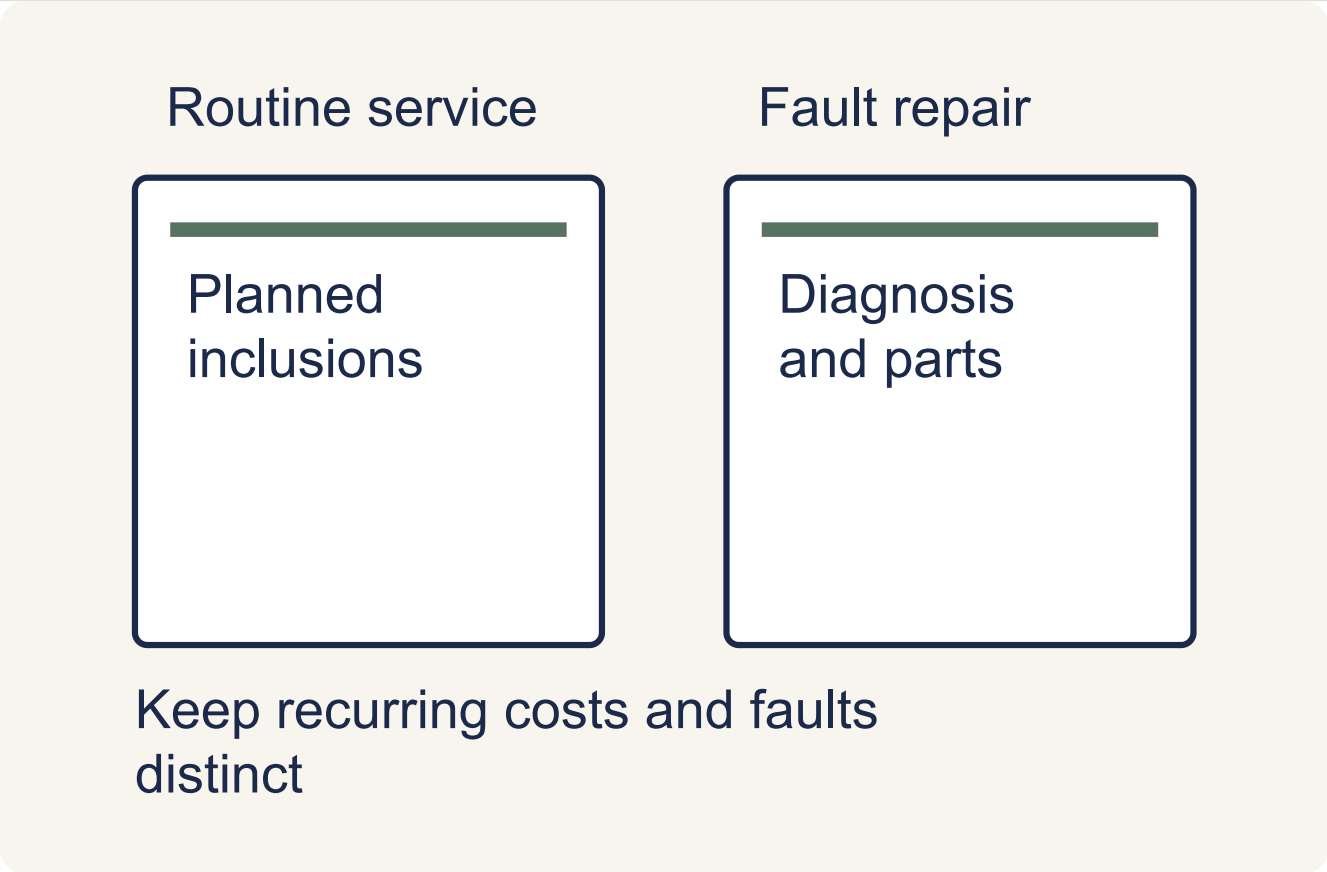
Keep diagnosis, named parts, labour, related work and optional upgrades visible so two repair proposals can be compared fairly.

Renovation guidance from the Competition and Consumer Commission of Singapore calls for clear itemised prices and disclosure of mandatory charges. Apply that principle to the proposed gate work: identify the part or adjustment, labour, attendance, electrical or support repairs, disposal and completion checks. Agree how newly discovered work will be priced before it proceeds.

The same guidance asks for rights and remedies to be stated clearly in the contract, so have the quote say in writing what warranty covers the new part and the work.

Separate required repairs from optional additions such as extra remotes or app control. A failed protective function belongs in the safe-repair scope; an optional add-on for phone control can be decided on its own. Ask for the final amount including applicable tax and any visit credit.

Budget for routine servicing and separate repairs



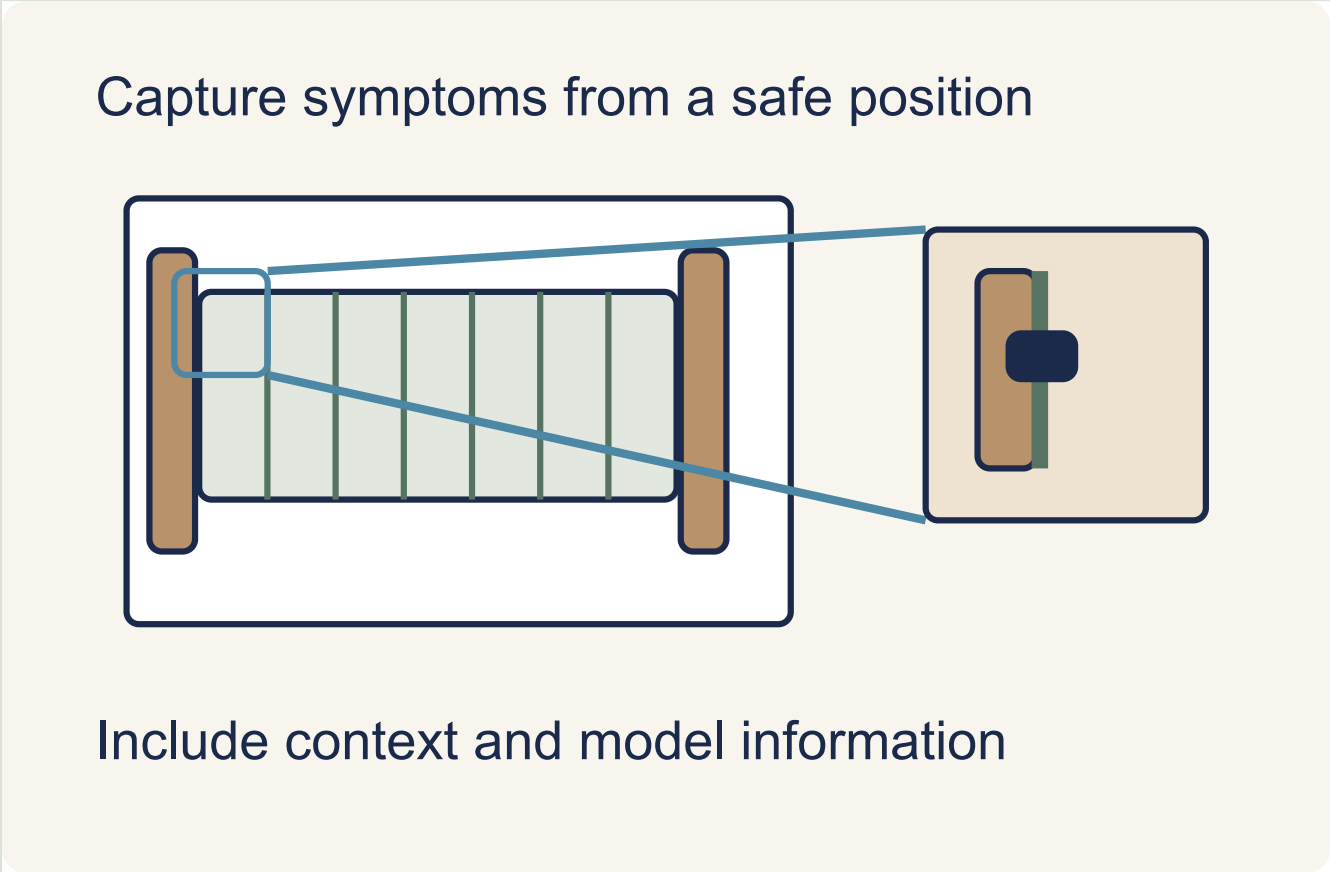
Routine service inclusions and repairs to diagnosed faults should remain separate in the records and budget.

A service visit is not a pre-priced allowance for every breakdown. Match the tasks to the equipment's maintenance requirements, then identify which fault repairs and parts are excluded. This prevents the same routine work being counted in both a maintenance fee and a repair quotation.

Keep dated records of the fault, diagnosis and replaced parts. They help a technician recognise whether rain, mechanical wear or another recurring condition needs attention. Do not buy a maintenance package on an unsupported promise that no future repair will be needed.

> Compare the gate, motor and additional installation work as separate quotation items. auto gate installation costs →

Prepare for the Repair Discussion



Record what the gate was doing and its surroundings from a safe position to support the assessment.

Stop using a faulty gate and keep everyone out of its path. A qualified technician should switch off the power and secure the gate before anyone looks closely.

Keep clear yourself, note what you see from a safe place, and don't remove covers, force the gate or bypass the sensors. Ask for the applicable movement and protective-function checks after the repair; opening successfully is only part of handover.

For the discussion, write down what you already saw before you stopped using the gate, such as whether it failed opening or closing, which remote or button you were using, and whether it followed rain or a knock. Don't keep operating the gate to test it. Send us those notes, a few photos taken from outside the gate's path and any model label or earlier repair record you already have.

Photos help us prepare, but we don't quote from them. We arrange a free site assessment, then give you a fixed-price quote within 3 to 5 working days.

Common questions

Should I repair my auto gate or replace it entirely?

Repair it when the fault is in one part and the rest of the gate is sound, with parts still available. Consider replacing it when several parts are worn or the safety work goes beyond the failed part. Either way, put the repair quote, with its warranty, beside a quote for equivalent new equipment.

Why do two repair quotes for the same auto-gate fault differ so much?

They may price different faults, components or retained equipment. Compare the diagnosis first, then the same complete scope including labour, protective-function checks, applicable tax and any credited attendance fee. A cheaper total is meaningful only once those differences are clear.

What ongoing cost should a working auto gate actually have?

If your gate is working, its ongoing cost is servicing, so ask for the service agreement's price in writing, along with how many visits a year it includes. A service visit should follow the maker's schedule for that motor, with a technician checking how the gate moves, its fixings and its safety features. Repairs and parts outside the agreement are billed separately.

Does an auto-gate repair need any permit or authority approval in Singapore?

Swapping a part on the existing gate, such as a motor, sensor or control board, is a smaller matter than changing the entrance, the pillars or the supports the gate hangs on. For work that changes the structure, the Building and Construction Authority (BCA) advises you, as a private property owner, to engage a Qualified Person, a registered architect or professional engineer, to advise on the clearances needed from BCA and other authorities such as the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA). Our auto gate approval guide covers the BCA, URA, road-access and estate checks that can apply to gate work.

Can DirectHome help if I only need a repair, not a new gate?

Send us what the gate was doing when it stopped working properly. We start with a free site assessment, then give you a fixed-price quote within 3 to 5 working days; we don't quote from photos.

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