

Project workflow explanation:

In this demo, I am going to show a real world problem

that many small to mid sized businesses face.

Manually processing receipts and entering receipts data into spreadsheets.

This process is tedious and time-consuming; because it's so repetitive, it's easy for things to get overlooked, making it really difficult to manage when there are many receipts each month.

To solve this,

I built an automation workflow using n8n. This automation reads receipt images,

extracts important information, and logs everything into Google Sheets.

The goal of this automation is simple. Whenever a receipt image is uploaded

into a Google Drive folder, the system automatically takes over. It reads the receipt text.

Extracts structured data such as receipt date, vendor name,description, total amount and tax paid etc.

Categorizes the expense and stores the results in Google Sheets

for reporting and bookkeeping. This removes manual work and helps keep records accurate and consistent.

Let me walk you through the setup. I have an Unprocessed folder in Google Drive. A Processed folder for completed receipts and a Google Sheet that stores all extracted data.

Right now, the Unprocessed and processed folder is empty, and the Google Sheet has no new entries. Now I upload receipts image

into the Unprocessed folder. As soon as the image is uploaded, the automation is triggered automatically. In the background, the system detects the new file. Converts the image into readable text using OCR. Uses an AI model to extract structured information and prepares the data for storage.

Now let's look at the results.

The receipt image has been moved from the Unprocessed folder into the Processed folder.

Everything stays organized.

In Google Sheets, a new row has been added automatically.

The system extracted the receipt date, vendor name, expense category, description, total amount and tax details, and a direct link to the original receipt image, where you can view the original receipt for reference. All of this happened within seconds.

This automation is useful for business expense tracking, record keeping, bookkeeping and accounting, tax preparation, and audits or verification.

It is scalable. It is reusable and it can be customized based on different business needs.

This workflow still has room for improvement and I plan to continue enhancing it with more features and customization options.

Thank you and appreciate your time

Screenshots:

Drive

+ New

Home

My Drive

Computers

Shared with me

Recent

Starred

Spam

Trash

Storage

33.8 MB of 15 GB used

Get more storage

Search in Drive

My Drive > Processed

Type

People

Modified

Source

Name	Owner	Date modified	File size	Sort
Scan2026-01-26_133618.png	me	Jan 26 me	8.7 MB	
Scan2026-01-28_030429.jpg	me	Jan 28 me	291 KB	
Scan2026-01-28_030948.jpg	me	Jan 28 me	297 KB	
Scan2026-01-28_031014.png	me	Jan 28 me	1.9 MB	
Scan2026-01-28_031118.jpg	me	Jan 28 me	189 KB	
Scan2026-01-28_031147.png	me	Jan 28 me	1.8 MB	

Drive

+ New

Home

My Drive

Computers

Shared with me

Recent

Starred

Spam

Trash

Storage

51.6 MB of 15 GB used

Get more storage

Search in Drive


My Drive > Unprocessed

Type

People

Modified

Source



Drop files here
or use the "New" button.

6 uploads complete

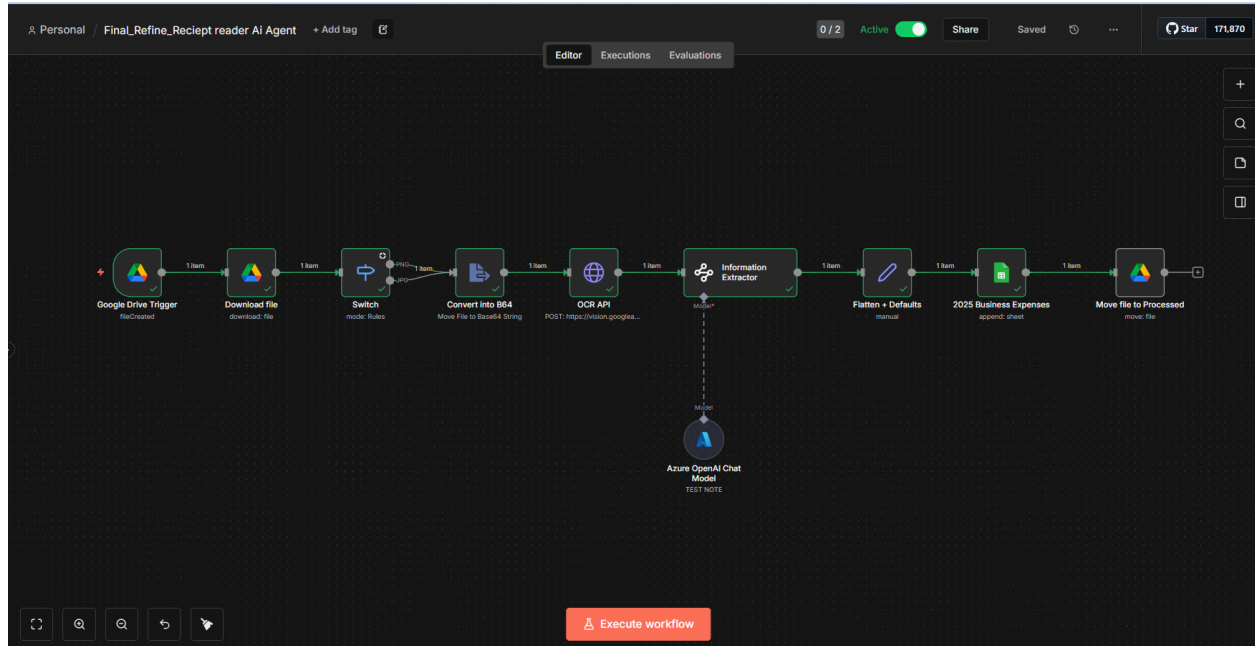
Scan2026-01-28_031147.png

Scan2026-01-28_031118.jpg

Scan2026-01-28_031014.png

Scan2026-01-28_030948.jpg

Scan2026-01-28_030429.jpg



Personal / Final_Refine_Receipt reader AI Agent + Add tag

0/2 Active Share Saved ... Star 171,870

Editor Executions Evaluations

Executions

Auto refresh

Jan 29, 00:53:56 Succeeded in 15.216s

Jan 29, 00:52:56 Succeeded in 25.614s

Jan 29, 00:48:48 Succeeded in 1.594s

Jan 29, 00:48:04 Error in 5.776s

Jan 29, 00:47:56 Error in 11.062s

Jan 29, 00:47:12 Error in 337ms

Jan 29, 00:46:56 Error

Jan 29, 00:46:13 Error in 338ms

Jan 29, 00:45:56 Error

Jan 29, 00:44:56 Error

Jan 29, 00:43:56 Error

Which executions is this workflow saving? Logs

Jan 29, 00:53:56 Succeeded in 15.216s | ID#485

```
graph LR; Trigger[Google Drive Trigger] -- 1 item --> Download[Download file]; Download -- 1 item --> Switch[Switch]; Switch -- 1 item --> Convert[Convert into B64]; Convert -- 1 item --> OCR[OCR API]; OCR -- 1 item --> Extractor[Information Extractor]; Extractor -- 1 item --> Flatten[Flatten + Defaults]; Flatten -- 1 item --> Expenses[2025 Business Expenses]; Expenses -- 1 item --> Move[Move file to Processed]; Extractor -.-> Chat[Azure OpenAI Chat Model];
```

2025 Business Expenses

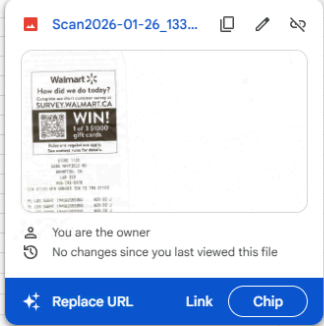
File Edit View Insert Format Data Tools Extensions Help

Q Menus

J22

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N			
1	date		category	vendor	description		totalAmount	subTotal	gst/tax	ps	totalTax	paymentMethod	cardLast4	status	processedDate	receiptLocation	
2	11/28/25	Meals and Entertainment	Lazeez Shawarma	(Rec) Chicken OnThe Rocks x1, (Lg) Chicken OnThe Rocks :		46.75	41.37	5.38	0	5.38	Credit Card			Processed	2026-01-29 0:53	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hqc3zhT1a-mI/	
3	12/14/25	Office Supplies	COSTCO WHOLESAL	FERRERO 48CT x1		24.85	21.99	2.86	0	2.86	Credit Card	8268		Processed	2026-01-29 0:53	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1UzslqCv6tEhY/	
4	12/15/24	Meals and Entertainment	Meadowvale McDonalds	Dbl Filet-O-Fish EVM x1, M Coke x3, M Fries x3, Filet-O x2		34.27		0	0	0	Credit Card	2990		Processed	2026-01-29 0:53	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Eqb05u4ktp8d/	
5	10/06/25	Office Supplies	DOLLARAMA	BUTTON BATTERIES INCL ECO x1		1.48	1.31	0.17	0	0.17	Credit Card	8268		Processed	2026-01-29 0:53	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dttE7Ibgl_sEa6/	
6	12/15/24	Meals and Entertainment	McDonalds Meadowvale To	Filet-O-Fish x1		5.69	5.69	0	0	0	Credit Card			Processed	2026-01-29 0:53	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1J265C4su40uP/	
7	01/23/26	Clothing	Walmart	PL LDS SWEAT x3		98.31		87	11.31	0	11.31	Personal Credit Card	8268		Processed	2026-01-29 0:54	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1DqAbhrCvhtq/
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2025 Business Expenses													
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Q Menus													
P13													
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1	receiptLocation		cratInelItem	receiptId	storeAddress	driveFileName							
2	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hqChZhT1a-mt/		Meals & Entertainment	001-2-0093	ad, Unit 2B, Miss, L5V 2A8	Scan2026-01-28_031118.jpg							
3	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1U7zslqfcvRxEFHv/		Office supplies	7127	5900 Rodeo Drive, Mississauga, ON L5R 3S9	Scan2026-01-28_030948.jpg							
4	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Fqxb5vkYp8v6/		Meals & Entertainment	1LNVBVY07D	6650 Meadowvale Town Centre Circle, Mississauga	Scan2026-01-28_030429.jpg							
5	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dtEZTbgl_sEao/		Office supplies	8140	8265 Financial Dr Unit 2, Brampton ON L6Y 1M1	Scan2026-01-28_031147.png							
6	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Z66Qs4xu2OuP/		Meals & Entertainment	1LNVBVY07J	6650 Meadowvale Town Centre Circle, Mississauga	Scan2026-01-28_031014.png							
7	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1DqAh6lrOctqu/		Office supplies	1103	5085 MAYFIELD RD, BRAMPTON, ON, L6R 3S9	Scan2026-01-26_133618.png							
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Receipts used for testing:



N Mississauga #526

5900 Rodeo Drive
Mississauga, ON L5R 3S9

V8 Member 111906870640

469627 FERRERO 48CT 21.99

SUBTOTAL 21.99

TAX 2.86

**** TOTAL 24.85

XXXXXXXXXXXX8268

ACCT: MASTERCARD

REFERENCE #: 0010011270 H

AUTH #: 6446E 2025/12/14 16:42:14

Invoice Number: 007127

Purchase - Mastercard

A0000000041010

0000008001 E800

01 APPROVED - THANK YOU 027

AMOUNT: \$24.85

IMPORTANT - retain this copy
for your records

CUSTOMER COPY

MasterCard 24.85

CHANGE 0.00

H (H)HST 13% 2.86

TOTAL NUMBER OF ITEMS SOLD - 1

2025/12/14 16:42:12 526 7 107 821

SEASONS GREETINGS & HAPPY HOLIDAYS



22052600701072512141642

OP#: 821 Name: Rebecca

Thank You!
Please Come Again

H = HST G=GST

HST/GST #121476329RT

Whse:526 Trn:7 Trn:107 OP:821

Items Sold: 1

V8 2025/12/14 16:42

Meadowvale Town Centre
6650 Meadowvale Town Centre Circle
Mississauga ON L5N 4B7
Tel#: 905-814-8983

Store#: 40098
TRANS#: 1LNVBNY07D
Welcome to Meadowvale McDonalds!

279

KS# 2 12/15/2024 06:00:23 PM

QTY	ITEM	TOTAL
1	Dbl Filet-O-Fish EVM	
1	M Coke	
1	M Fries	
2	Filet-O-Fish	
2	M Coke	
2	M Fries	

Subtotal	34.27
Take-Out Total	34.27
CREDIT CARD	34.27
Change	0.00

Have a concern with the service?
Contact the General Manager
40098@post.mcdonalds.ca

===== TRANSACTION RECORD =====

TYPE: PURCHASE

ACCT: MASTERCARD \$ 34.27

CARD NUMBER: *****2990
DATE/TIME: 15-Dec-2024 18:01:11
REFERENCE #: 0017435720 C
AUTHOR. #: 033528
TRANS #: 1LNVBNY07D

APP: MASTERCARD
A0000000041010
ACQ: 0000208000E800
ARQC: 298137B0881A24B4
TC/AAC: 3207E1A4D5D20381

01 APPROVED - THANK YOU 027

IMPORTANT - retain this copy for
your records

*** CARDHOLDER COPY *****

Lazeez Sharma
6085 Cr... ad, Unit 2B
Miss... 15V 2A8
905-... 18
www.lazeezsharma.com

DATE/TIME: 11/28/25 16:04:50
STATION #: 01-2 Server #: ADMIN
RECEIPT #: 001-2-0093

SALE (Here)

Qty	Product	Price	Sum
	(Reg) Chicken OnThe Rocks		
1x		\$12.03	\$12.03
	> Hot		
	(Lg) Chicken OnThe Rocks		
1x		\$15.69	\$15.69
	> Hot		
	Friday Chicken Saj combo		
1x		\$12.99	\$12.99
	> Tomato		
	> Pickles		
	> Turnips		
	> Hot		

Subtotal \$41.37
HST \$5.38
TOTAL \$46.75

Master \$46.75

Order No 0093

DOLLARAMA

8265 Financial Dr Unit 2
Brampton ON L6Y 1M1
HST 863624433

BUTTON BATTERIES INCL. ECO
667888602377

SUBTOTAL	1.31 H
HST 13%	\$1.31
TOTAL	\$0.17
MASTERCARD	\$1.48
TYPE: PURCHASE	\$1.48
ACCT: MASTERCARD	

AMOUNT: \$ 1.48

CARD NUMBER: *****8268
DATE/TIME: 25/10/06 13:31:22
REFERENCE #: 66588931 0010011560 H
AUTHOR. #: 03678E
INVOICE NUMBER: 8140
Mastercard
A0000000041010
0000008001

01/027 APPROVED - THANK YOU
NO SIGNATURE TRANSACTION
-- IMPORTANT --

Retain This Copy For Your Records
*** CUSTOMER COPY ***

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PRICES MAY INCLUDE ECO FEES,
CRF AND DEPOSIT (WHEN APPLICABLE).
NO EXCHANGE

NO RETURN

THANK YOU FOR SHOPPING AT DOLLARAMA
2025-10-06 13:31:25

001257 03

Questions/Comments: client@dollarama.com 8140
WE'RE HIRING! Visit www.dollarama.com

Walmart

How did we do today?

Complete our short customer survey at
SURVEY.WALMART.CA



WIN!
1 of 3 \$1000
gift cards

Rules and regulations apply.
See contest rules for details.

STORE 1120
5085 MAYFIELD RD
BRAMPTON, ON
L6R 3S9
905-793-5478

ST# 01120 OP# 005423 TE# 72 TR# 01103

PL LDS SWEAT 194062055350	\$29.00 J
PL LDS SWEAT 194062055350	\$29.00 J
PL LDS SWEAT 194062055340	\$29.00 J

SUBTOTAL	\$87.00
HST 13.0000 %	\$11.31
TOTAL	\$98.31

MCARD TEND	\$98.31
CHANGE DUE	\$0.00

MASTERCARD **** * 8268 I 2
\$98.31 TOTAL PURCHASE
APPROVAL # 04554E
RRN # 602300677876

AID A0000000041010
TC 0A7FCECDFE5ADF1
TERMINAL ID WMTUP017263
*Pin Verified

01/23/26 17:38:17

GST/HST 137466199 RT 0001
QST 1016551356 TQ 0001

ITEMS SOLD 3
TC# 6658 8987 9719 0786 8737



01/23/26 17:38:21