

Nintendo Announces Labo, A Cardboard-Software Hybrid For The Switch

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A sudden announcement happened earlier today, Nintendo revealed the Nintendo Labo. The Nintendo Labo is a series of cardboard shells that interact with specifically made software on the Switch.

Using the cardboard pieces with the Switch seems pretty simple. First, players will need to assemble the cardboard pieces like age-old cardboard carts or, more recently, like VR goggles made of cardboard. Then they'll attach the Switch and joycons into certain positions that are required by the game. After that, you're ready to play!



Players can actually move this on the ground.

The trailer showed many different ways players can use the assembled shells that Nintendo are calling Toy-cons once they're completed. Toy-cons can be made into a mini-piano, a fishing rod, motorcycle handles, or even giant robots. It was interesting to see someone playing musical notes or steering a motorcycle on the highway. But, I'm curious to see how well a game controls with the Toy-cons. We haven't had a chance to try a demo.



This is a player using the Robot Kit.

At the outset, Nintendo is going to sell two sets for the Nintendo Labo. The first one, called the Nintendo Variety Pack, priced at \$69.99, comes with five Toy-con projects such as the aforementioned piano and motorcycle handles, but also a house, fishing rod, and two RC cars powered by the Switch joycons. The second set, called the Robot Kit, comes with a backpack with controls and mechanisms designed to control a giant robot in a game. The set does require a bit more money. It's demanding a price tag of \$79.99.

Our Take

As someone that wants to play with a new toy, I could see myself checking this out. A lot of it is going to depend on whether the software is cool, and how durable the cardboard will be over time. That said, those prices are pretty expensive, so an impulse buy for families gets pretty hard when it goes above \$60.