Written by Frederick Douglas 26 March 2019

According to the Wall Street Journal, Nintendo is preparing not one, but two variants on the Switch-- one smaller and cheaper, the other aimed at gamer customers wanting a more high-end machine.



The sources for the report are parts suppliers claiming to have access to a prototype. They say the lower-end version of the Switch lacks the "HD Rumble" vibration functionality, and might not even have detachable controllers, making it something of a successor to the 3DS. Meanwhile the high-end version has "enhanced features targeted at avid video gamers," making it reminiscent of the likes of the Xbox One X and the PlayStation 4 Pro.

Then again, one WSJ source says "you would be wrong to think the enhanced version is similar to what Sony did with PS4 Pro and the other is just a cheap alternative that looks very similar to some past hand-held machines, say, Sony's PlayStation Vita."

The WSJ story follows a <u>February 2019 report from Nikkei</u> saying Nintendo plans to shrink the Switch into an even more portable device with a reduced price. The Nikkei report says the smaller, cheaper Switch would not be compatible with the dock, have a smaller display (if one with reduced bezels) and have built-in controls.

We should learn whether Nintendo has plans for different Switch SKUs come E3 2019.

Go Nintendo to Launch Two New Switch Models (WSJ.com, subscription required)