Memorandum

**To:** New Gamers looking to buy Equipment

**From:** Chandler Mendoza-Eastman \_\_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** October 9, 2017

**Subject:** Deciding on a Gaming Controller

Introduction

As a new gamer looking to buy your first controller, this memo compares Sony’s DualShock 4, Microsoft’s Xbox One S Wireless controller, and Nintendo’s Joy-Cons. Features are compared within Table 1x by the following criteria: power, battery life, charging method, charge time, button/ analog stick count, headphone jack/ other ports, weight, colors, and price.

Comparison

**Table1: Comparison of the DualShock 4, Xbox One S Wireless, and Joy-Con controllers.**

| **Criteria** | **DualShock 4 [1]** | **Xbox One S Wireless [2]** | **Joy-Con (Pair) [3]** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Power** | 1 x 3.7V 1000 mAh lithium-ion battery | 2 x AA batteries (rechargeable lithium-ion battery pack sold separately, $25) | 2 lithium-ion batteries (1 per controller) |
| **Battery Life** | 7 – 8 hours | 30 hours when using the included AA batteries (dependent on type of AA batteries used) | 20 hours (per controller) |
| **Charging Method** | Micro USB (charge and play), EXT port (extra peripheral used for various accessories) | Micro USB (charge and play with battery pack) | Attach to console or Charge Grip (sold separately, used to charge and play when attached) |
| **Charge Time** | 2 hours | N/A (4 hours with battery pack) | 3½ hours |
| **Button/Analog Stick Count** | 14 physical buttons, 2 analog sticks (X, O, triangle, square, L1, R1, L2, R2, L3, R3, PS, Share, Options, Touchpad Click) | 13 physical buttons, 2 analog sticks (A, B, X, Y, LB, RB, LT, RT, Left Stick, Right Stick, Menu, View, Xbox, Controller Sync) | 18 physical buttons, 2 analog sticks (Directional up, down, left, right, A, B, X, Y, Left and Right Stick, Capture, Home, L, R, ZL, ZR, +, -) |
| **Headphone Jack/Misc. Ports** | 3.5 mm stereo jack | 3.5 mm stereo jack | Not on controllers (3.5 mm stereo jack included on console) |
| **Weight** | 7.4 oz. | 9.9 oz. | 2 oz. (L), 1.8 oz. (R) |
| **Colors** | 9 (Black, Red, Blue, Green, Silver, Gold, Crystal, Red Crystal, Blue Crystal) Colors other than black, red, and blue cost $65. | 20 (Black, White, Grey/ Green, Green/ Orange, Red, Blue, and various special-edition variants. Colors other than black and white range from $65 to $75. Can also create custom controller for $80) | 4 (Gray, Neon Blue, Neon Red, Neon Yellow) |
| **Price** | $60 | $60 (two AA batteries included) | $80 for pair  $50 for single |
| SOURCES:  "Joy-Con vs. DualShock 4 vs. Xbox One Controller. " *IGN*. N.p., 2 Mar2017. Web. 10 Oct.  2017.  **[1]** "DualShock 4." *PlayStation*. N.p., n.d. Web. 10 Oct. 2017.  **[2]** "Accessories | Xbox One." *Xbox.com*. N.p., n.d. Web. 10 Oct. 2017.  **[3]** "Nintendo Joy-Con Controller." *Amazon*. N.p., n.d. Web. 10 Oct. 2017. | | | |

Conclusion

The DualShock 4, Xbox One Wireless, and Joy-Con controllers differ in terms of power, battery life, charging method, charge time, button/analog stick count, headphone jack/misc. ports, weight, colors, and price.

* If you prefer AA batteries, choose the Xbox One S Wireless controller.
* If you want the longest battery life, use AA batteries with the Xbox One S Wireless controller.
* If using AA batteries isn’t ideal but still want a fast recharge time, try the DualShock 4 controller.
* If you don’t want to constantly recharge your controller, try the Joy-Cons and charge as you play for the easiest solution.
* If you are concerned with about being loud, try the DualShock 4 or Xbox One S Wireless and plug a pair of headphones.
* If you are concerned about the complexity of the controller, try one of the DualShock 4 or Xbox One S Wireless controllers for a simpler experience.
* If you are concerned with weight, try the Joy-Con controllers for the lightest option.
* If you want to stand out, try the Xbox One S Wireless controller for added customizability.
* If you are concerned about price, buy either the DualShock 4 or Xbox One S Wireless controllers, to save money.

References

"Accessories | Xbox One." *Xbox.com*. N.p., n.d. Web. 10 Oct. 2017.

"DualShock 4." *PlayStation*. N.p., n.d. Web. 10 Oct. 2017.

"Joy-Con vs. DualShock 4 vs. Xbox One Controller. " *IGN*. N.p., 2 Mar. 2017. Web.

"Nintendo Joy-Con Controller." *Amazon*. N.p., n.d. Web. 10 Oct. 2017.

**[word count 558]**