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Thread: [PSA: You'll Have to Pay For Switch 2's GameChat Soon, And It's Not Worth It](#)

Stanley - March 9, 2026, 7:20 pm

PSA: You'll Have to Pay For Switch 2's GameChat Soon, And It's Not Worth It

The Nintendo Switch 2 is doing very well for Nintendo financially, even as fans settle into the knowledge that it is essentially a more powerful, premium Switch system. The Switch 2 lacked the new bells and whistles that typically come with the notoriously experimental company. One major exception was the addition of a new C button, for Chat, a shortcut key for the new GameChat functionality. Now almost a year into its lifespan, the free-trial period for that feature is closing on March 31, 2026, after which you'll have to pay for it going forward. And we can confidently say, having played Switch 2 for almost a year now: Don't do that. Now, to be clear, GameChat isn't going to be its own paid subscription service. Instead, it will be part of a Nintendo Switch Online subscription, which is required to play many online games and comes with a few perks like the NES and Super NES game libraries. You may already have an NSO subscription, and even the basic version of it includes GameChat. So if you've already got it, you're covered, and nothing is really changing for you. Some players have speculated that Nintendo will be raising the price of NSO to accommodate the new feature--and simply because all kinds of subscriptions have raised in price over the last couple of years--but Nintendo hasn't announced a price hike yet. If you're already subscribed, the change will be virtually invisible to you. And to be frank, if you aren't subscribed, the change will also be invisible, because you've probably rarely if ever used GameChat. Nintendo has not shared usage statistics for the feature, but anecdotally, it doesn't seem to be used all that often in multiplayer settings. The screen-sharing functionality is neat, but it can be laggy and it makes your play-screen smaller. Continue Reading at GameSpot

<https://www.gamespot.com/articles/psa-youll-have-to-pay-for-switch-2s-gamechat-soon-and-its-not-worth-it/1100-6538665/?ftag=CAD-01-10abi2f>

shakur123 - March 10, 2026, 9:42 pm

Not surprising. Putting voice chat behind Nintendo Switch Online makes the "C button" feel more like a feature lock than an innovation.

If the chat experience isn't significantly better than Discord or in-game voice, most players will just ignore it and keep using external apps. ?