Microsoft unveils disc-less Xbox One S All-Digital Edition for $249

Microsoft is making its disc-less Xbox One S official today. After weeks of leaks, the software maker is unveiling the Xbox One S All-Digital Edition, which is priced at $249 and will be available on May 7th. This is a new model that will be sold alongside the original Xbox One S, and the more powerful Xbox One X. The big selling point here is that this All-Digital Edition will not ship with the Blu-ray drive, cutting the price slightly by $50 (recommended retail price).

Microsoft is including a 1TB HDD on this new digital model alongside digital versions of *Forza Horizon 3*, *Sea of Thieves*, and *Minecraft* in the box. The hardware is exactly the same as existing Xbox One S consoles, just without the 4K Blu-ray drive.

“The Xbox One S All-Digital Edition is $50 less than Xbox One S and we expect to maintain at least this price difference between the two consoles,” explains Jeff Gattis, general manager of Platform and Devices Marketing at Microsoft. This is $50 less than the recommended retail price of $299 for the existing Xbox One S, but there are regularly bundle deals available for around $230. It’s not clear if we’ll see similar bundles for this all-digital version.

[embedded content]

Microsoft’s original Xbox One vision is slowly coming into view
Microsoft is clearly testing out the idea of digital-only

consoles, which was part of the original vision for the Xbox One. Microsoft had originally planned to let Xbox One users share any games digitally, but a backlash over the used games policies and online check forced the company to reverse most of its more promising plans.

Microsoft has been aggressively pushing its recently, a subscription service that provides access to more than 100 Xbox games. Xbox Game Studios titles like *Sea of Thieves* and *Crackdown 3* launch first on the service, and Microsoft even recently added *Minecraft* to Xbox Game Pass. A disc-less console with a digital Xbox Games Pass subscription is now a reality. Microsoft is also working on an xCloud game streaming service that will stream digital games to PCs, consoles, and mobile devices.

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