

# On Nintendo MotionPlus

Contributed by Admin  
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Game enthusiasts were eagerly anticipating a new motion-control device announcement at E3 this year, but they didn't expect it to come from Nintendo. After all, the company already has a motion-sensing controller in its Wii remote. Nintendo announced its new Wii MotionPlus accessory in conjunction with a brand new Wii Sports game, Wii Sports Resort. The MotionPlus add-on plugs into the bottom of the Wii remote and works together with the remote's sensors to make controls even more precise.

When throwing the Frisbee in the Disc Dog game, the MotionPlus's sensor detects how you're holding the disc in hand. Rotate your wrist slightly, and the Frisbee will rotate up or down on-screen in response. The Wiimote, MotionPlus and Nunchuk become handle bars in the Power Cruising jet ski racing game. Rotating the Wiimote with the MotionPlus attached activates the throttle just like on a motorcycle or personal water scooter.

In accordance with the Nintendo Wii site [www.wii-fever.com](http://www.wii-fever.com), the Wii MotionPlus attachment plugs into the bottom of the Wiimote. It adds about an inch and a half to the length of the controller, and includes a pass-through port for the Nunchuk. The MotionPlus's port cover actually folds into the Nunchuk's connector to stay out of the way when the Nunchuk is connected. The MotionPlus has a lock that keeps the add-on attached if you're not using the rubber Wii jacket that comes with the accessory.

I think this new wii-motion + peripheral is basically turning the wii remote into what i was expecting when i picked up a wii-remote for the first time ever. I was kinda disappointed at how it didn't recognize as many motions and to such a degree as i thought it would. Maybe this will change things. Kinda peeved about extra cost and having to get one for each remote though.

There's a good reason why this gyro tech wasn't used in the first place....cost. Looking at the InvenSense website you can buy one gyroscope for \$40 (\$35 each if you buy over 100). Obviously Nintendo will get and sell them cheaper due to the quantities...but a couple years ago they would have been even more expensive. You could have been looking at \$80 for the Wiimote alone.