

iFixit Nintendo Switch Joy-Con/Switch Lite Repair Kit

iFixit Joystick Repair Kit User Manual

For Nintendo Switch Joy-Con and Switch Lite

1. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The iFixit Joystick Repair Kit is designed to address common joystick malfunctions, such as 'Joy-Con drift,' in Nintendo Switch Joy-Con and Switch Lite controllers. This comprehensive kit includes a high-quality replacement joystick and all the specialized tools required for a successful do-it-yourself repair. Both left and right Joy-Con controllers use the same joystick component, meaning two kits are needed to replace both joysticks if required.



Image 1.1: Complete iFixit Joystick Repair Kit showing the joystick, tweezers, spudger, opening pick, screwdriver handle, and various bits.

2. KIT CONTENTS

Your iFixit Joystick Repair Kit includes the following components:

- **Replacement Joystick:** A new, high-quality analog joystick module compatible with Nintendo Switch Joy-Con and Switch Lite.
- **Precision Tweezers:** For handling small components and ribbon cables.
- **Spudger:** A non-marring tool for prying and disconnecting components.
- **Opening Pick:** Used to safely open device casings without causing damage.
- **Screwdriver Handle with Bits:** Includes specialized bits necessary for Nintendo Switch disassembly.



Image 2.1: Top view of the replacement joystick module.



Image 2.2: Bottom view of the replacement joystick module, showing the flexible circuit board.

3. SETUP AND PREPARATION

Before beginning any repair, proper preparation is crucial to ensure safety and success.

1. **Power Off Device:** Ensure your Nintendo Switch console or Joy-Con controller is completely powered off, not just in sleep mode. Disconnect it from any power sources.
2. **Gather Tools:** Lay out all components of your iFixit repair kit and ensure you have adequate lighting.
3. **Clean Workspace:** Work on a clean, well-lit, and stable surface. This helps prevent loss of small screws and components.
4. **Static Discharge:** Consider using an anti-static wrist strap or periodically touching a grounded metal object to discharge static electricity, which can damage sensitive electronic components.
5. **Reference Guides:** For detailed, step-by-step instructions specific to your device model (Joy-Con or Switch Lite), it is highly recommended to consult the official iFixit repair guides available on their website. These guides often include high-resolution images and videos for each step.

4. REPAIR PROCEDURE (OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS)

This section provides a general overview of the repair process. Always refer to the specific iFixit online guide for your exact model for detailed steps.

1. **Disassembly:** Carefully remove the external screws using the appropriate screwdriver bits from your kit. Use the opening pick and spudger to gently pry open the casing. Be mindful of any ribbon cables connecting the two halves.
2. **Battery Disconnection:** For safety, disconnect the battery connector from the logic board. This prevents accidental short circuits during the repair.
3. **Internal Component Removal:** Depending on the model, you may need to remove additional screws or components (e.g., battery, midframe, or other circuit boards) to access the joystick.
4. **Joystick Removal:** Locate the faulty joystick. Disconnect any ribbon cables attached to it using tweezers or the spudger. Remove the screws securing the joystick to the board. Carefully lift out the old joystick.
5. **New Joystick Installation:** Position the new iFixit replacement joystick in place. Secure it with the screws you removed earlier. Reconnect all ribbon cables firmly and correctly. Ensure they are seated properly in their connectors.
6. **Reassembly:** Carefully reassemble the device in reverse order of disassembly. Reconnect the battery. Ensure all screws are tightened appropriately, but do not overtighten.
7. **Testing:** After reassembly, power on your device. Test the new joystick thoroughly in the Nintendo Switch system settings (Calibrate Control Sticks) and in various games to ensure it functions correctly and the 'drift' issue is resolved.

5. MAINTENANCE

Proper care of your repair tools and device can extend their lifespan.

- **Tool Care:** After each use, clean your tools and store them in their original case or a designated tool kit to prevent loss or damage. Keep screwdriver bits free of debris.
- **Device Care:** After repair, handle your Joy-Cons or Switch Lite with care. Avoid excessive force on the joysticks. Keep the device clean and free from dust and debris, especially around the joystick base.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING COMMON ISSUES

If you encounter problems after the repair, consider the following:

- **Joystick Not Responding/Still Drifting:**
 - **Check Ribbon Cables:** The most common issue is improperly seated ribbon cables. Re-open the device and ensure all ribbon cables connected to the joystick and logic board are fully inserted and the locking tabs (if present) are secured.
 - **Recalibration:** Perform a joystick calibration through the Nintendo Switch system settings.
 - **Re-installation:** If issues persist, try removing and re-installing the new joystick, paying close attention to all connections.
- **Device Not Powering On:**
 - **Battery Connection:** Ensure the battery connector is securely reconnected to the logic board.
 - **Other Connections:** Double-check all other internal ribbon cables and connectors to ensure they are properly seated.
- **Stripped Screws:** If you encounter stripped screws during disassembly or reassembly, iFixit offers specialized tools for screw extraction.

For further assistance, refer to the extensive troubleshooting guides and community forums available on the iFixit website.

7. PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

Attribute	Detail
Manufacturer	iFixit
Item Weight	2.4 ounces
Country of Origin	China
Date First Available	October 26, 2021

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

iFixit stands behind the quality of its products and tools.

Backed for Life: iFixit tools are designed to last. If any iFixit tool breaks, they will replace it for as long as you own it. This commitment reflects their confidence in the durability and quality of their repair solutions. For specific warranty claims, product support, or to access detailed repair guides, please visit the official iFixit website. Their extensive online resources and community forums are invaluable for successful repairs.