

Envy Extreme GPU FAQ

The following FAQ covers our policy effective September 12, 2020, regarding the graphics card used in the Envy Extreme. madVR Labs reserves the right to modify this policy based on future market conditions and or component availability:

Q. Can you tell me about the graphics card used in the Envy Extreme and support for HDMI 2.1?

A. The processing horsepower in the Envy comes from a card made by Nvidia called a 2080 Super (2080S). Nvidia surprised the market very recently by announcing that the replacement model (the 3080) runs faster than people expected. And as anticipated, the 3080 card is capable of bringing HDMI 2.1 output with 8K support to the Envy, up to 48Gbps. The Envy with the 2080S, like most other modern A/V devices, currently supports HDMI 2.0 (full bandwidth 18Gbps for up to 4K60). We intend to start shipping Envys with a 3080 card as soon as possible. In addition to the HDMI output, we plan to also upgrade our HDMI input card to HDMI 2.1. Support for HDMI 2.1 input will not be available most likely until 2021, when it will be made available as a paid upgrade, as previously announced, and listed on the Envy specifications sheet.

Q. When do you plan to switch to the 3080 cards?

A. Originally, we had intended to switch to the 3080 card in 2021, when we would upgrade it at the same time with our HDMI input card. However, with the 3080 card providing HDMI 2.1 output and increased performance, it makes sense for us to start using the new cards as soon as we can get our hands on them. Although the 3080 card launch date is September 17th, these cards will likely be in very short supply. In the beginning, and possibly for a few months or longer, gamers may be lucky if they are able to buy just one. We anticipate it may take some time for us to get these cards in sufficient quantities, although we may be able to get them in drips and drabs. Until the 3080 card becomes available to us in sufficient quantities, we plan to continue to ship Envys with the 2080S card or possibly the 3070 card (similar in horsepower to the 2080S, but with HDMI 2.1) and upgrade these to the 3080 card later (see below).

Q. What difference will the 3080 card make now and later?

A. Although we have plans to eventually make big use of this additional horsepower for new madVR algorithms, in the short term we do not anticipate that Envys with the 3080 will offer significant advantages over the 2080S model. The advantage of the 3080 (or the 3070) for now is mainly for futureproofing, so Envy can support HDMI 2.1 and 8K output. However, if you do not need to use Envy with an 8K display at this time or very soon, then having the 3080 offers less benefit now - considering that the Envy must be sent in for the upgrade to HDMI 2.1 for the input card down the road anyway - at which time the 2080S (or 3070) will be switched out for the 3080, and this part of the HDMI 2.1 update will be done at our cost (TBD).

Q. What does this mean for Envy Extreme customers that already purchased a unit with a 2080S? Did they still benefit from buying early?



A. Yes. Anyone purchasing an Envy with the 2080S can have it swapped out at cost as part of our full HDMI 2.1 upgrade when offered (see below), and without making a big difference in the meantime (if not using an HDMI 2.1 display). And these customers saved a lot of money by purchasing under the pre-release pricing program, compared to those who purchase an Envy with a 3080 card, even after accounting for the at-cost upgrade from the 2080S to the 3080 later.

Q. What if I want to wait for the 3080 to be shipping in the Envy before buying an Extreme?

A. You may order an Envy Extreme with a 3080 (MSRP \$11,995) by placing a deposit with your dealer to hold your place in line for a 3080 unit. Lead times may be long, however (see below).

Q. What if I do not want to wait for the 3080?

A. You may still order an Envy Extreme for now with the 2080S (if available, MSRP \$11,495). Once we switch to using 3080 cards, no more 2080S models will be available to order.

Q. When do you anticipate having 3080 cards to ship in Envys?

A. It is too early to tell when we can purchase 3080 cards in sufficient quantities.

Q. How will the upgrade to full HDMI 2.1 input and output be handled, and when?

A. We anticipate that our HDMI input card with HDMI 2.1 will be available in 2021. At that time, you will have the option to send your Envy to an Envy Authorized Service Center (ASC) for a full upgrade to HDMI 2.1. If you have a 2080S (or 3070) card, it will be replaced with a 3080 card, at our cost as a courtesy to you, as part of this upgrade to full HDMI 2.1. In either case, your HDMI input card will be upgraded to the HDMI 2.1 model as well, at a cost to be determined.

Q. How does this affect the Envy Pro model?

A. The Envy Pro uses an entirely different series Nvidia card. Replacement Nvidia models for that series are not expected until 2021. As listed in the specifications, the Envy Pro will eventually get a paid upgrade to a 30XX card (specific model TBD) to support HDMI 2.1 output. It is not yet determined if the Envy Pro will get an option for HDMI 2.1 input. As of now, Envy Pro models with a 30XX card are not expected until 2021.

Q. What if I have more questions on the subject?

A. Please feel welcome to email us at sales@madvr.com. Thank you.