

Talking Tech: If you are TV shopping, you need to know the facts about these buying myths

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Having a new television to play video games on or stream Netflix, Disney+ and the new Paramount+ service on is great. But buying a new

TV, that can be a hassle.

Why? Because your eyes for a larger TV may be bigger than your budget allows. However, most say opt for larger if you can afford it—I've never heard anyone say, "Gee, I wish my TV was smaller."—and sales of TVs 65 inches and larger were up 53% (in units) over the first half of 2020, according to research firm The NPD Group.

But there are other issues to consider when you are buying a TV, our tech columnist colleague Marc Saltzman says. Among the TV shopping myths he debunks in his recent column are the need for 4K video on smaller TVs, in the 40-inch range, and whether you should concern yourself with 8K.

Oh, and do you need that extended warranty on your new TV purchase? Not necessarily. And when you get home and plug in your new set, if the [video quality](#) reminds you of a [soap opera](#), there's a fix for that.

Speaking of TVs, Samsung says its 110-inch and 99-inch 4K Micro LED TVs will be available this spring and a 76-inch model is coming, too.

What else happened in Tech?

—Facebook's misinformation problem. Far-right sources of news and information generate the most interactions on Facebook and those that spread misinformation have even higher engagement, generating on average 65% more engagement per follower, according to NYU's Cybersecurity for Democracy project.

—5G networks to expand. AT&T, T-Mobile and Verizon were big spenders in the Federal Communication Commission's recently-completed 5G spectrum auction. Verizon spent the most, but T-Mobile may be the best positioned, suggests analyst Bob O'Donnell.

—Now you can have your own racing drone. Consumer drone leader DJI unveiled its new all-in-one first-person DJI FPV (\$1,299) drone. It comes with goggles, giving you a front row seat as the high-speed drone zips from 0 to 62 miles per hour in two seconds and goes as fast as 87 mph.

Game break

Among the news in video games: The popular kid-friendly online gaming platform Roblox is working on a "safe" voice chat option for players, who currently can only chat via text.

What else are we reading? We all know a revamped Nintendo Switch is coming. Bloomberg wrote that a new version is coming later this year. GamesBeat's Mike Minotti wrote about how an upgrade in the console's performance is more important than the need for the new console's bigger screen to be 4K-quality.

This week on Talking Tech

Topics on the podcast this week included the good news that all the Apple stores in the U.S. were open for the first time since the onset of the coronavirus pandemic. We also discussed Spotify's plan to add higher quality audio and the launch of Paramount+, the renamed TV streaming service originally known as CBS All Access.

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