**“SWITCHBACK” by Eric Henneke**

**2018 BASIC 10-Liner PUR-80**

**Coded in Atari BASIC**

**Objective:**Two bands of geometric designs scroll left and right.  
-- You control the direction of the top band.  
-- The CPU controls the direction of the bottom band.  
Your goal is to match the top and bottom by lining them up 5 times as quickly as possible (to achieve the lowest score).  
  
**Scoring:** Your score is only increased/penalized when you are going the opposite direction of the bottom band. So be strategic with your directional moves.

**Gameplay progression:** As the 5 rounds progress, the CPU will change direction on you more quickly/erratically. For each new round, the starting direction is dependent on the direction the top band was traveling when the previous rounded ended. That’s another helpful hint to pay attention to.  
  
**Controls:**  
Just use left and right joystick motion.   
  
**Compatibility:**  
Works with all Atari XL/XE (PAL or NTSC) systems with Atari BASIC enabled. Even though Switchback was coded in 100% Atari Basic, it is also fully compatible with Turbo Basic XL and Altirra Basic as well. So if you want to see it run REALLY quickly, try it out with one of those too. ☺

An interesting mod if you run it in TBXL is to add this at end of line# 1 :PAUSE (R<4) This simple mod will make the game play closer to the Atari BASIC speed (slower) during rounds 1-3 but then speed up dramatically for final rounds 4 and 5. This is actually my favorite way to play the game.