

Welcome to Combo Helper Instructions!

Below you will find an explanation for each page:

- Title Page,
- Word Entry Page,
- Small Slider Page, and
- Big Slider Page.

Scroll Down to read on ...

### **Title Page**

From the Title Page, Press the button that says “Press Here to Start”. You will be taken to the Word Entry Page. Pressing the button that says “Press Here for Instructions” brings up this page.

### **Word Entry Page**

The Word Entry Page is where you enter the four words from the daily word puzzle. There are two fields for 5 letter words and another two fields for six letter words. Press the rectangle above the row of blocks to activate the keyboard. Press “Done” or the next rectangle for the next entry to proceed. The words you enter will be saved, in case you get a call, or simply wish to exit the app and continue at a later time.

If you wish to enter new words, press the button that says “Start Over”. Any entries that are showing will be cleared, as well as the old solved words that were saved.

When you have entered all four words press the button that says “Go Next” to proceed to the Small Slider Page.

If you wish to see the Title Page again, to have access to these instructions, press the button that says “Go Back”.

### **Small Slider Page**

The Small Slider Page is where you try to find real words for each of the jumbled words. Press the blue button next to the row of blocks (below one of rectangles containing a word you typed in on the previous page) to generate a list of possible combinations of the letters in the jumbled word. The viewing box shows five possibilities at a time. Slide the slider until you see the right word. When the

correct word is at the top of the viewing box, it will also appear in the blocks. That is when you are done with that word and can proceed to the next. Press the next blue button and continue. Repeat this until you have found all four correct, or un-jumbled, words.

Stopping the slider precisely may be difficult, so use the “arrow” keys (these are really double “greater than” and “less than” signs).

<< and >> move the viewing box one combination at a time.

When you have all four words proceed to the second part of the daily word puzzle, the Big Slider Page, by pressing the button that says “Go Next”.

If you wish to return to the Word Entry Page, press the button that says “Go Back”.

If you need a reminder about how to use the Small Slider Page, press the little information symbol on the lower right of the page, (the circle with the “i” inside).

### **Big Slider Page**

The Big Slider Page is where you take the solved words and use letters from them in order to solve the riddle that is part of the daily word puzzle.

Select the letters to use by pressing on them. The letters you press will turn red, and be transferred to the row of fifteen blocks across the middle of the page. If you make a mistake press the letter again – it will be removed from the row of blocks and return to black. You will notice that the letters will align themselves in alphabetical order. This is one of the secrets to the success of the ComboHelper app – shhh! It would be impossible for us as humans to recognize the answer to the clue by looking at so many combinations as they scroll by, unless we were watching some kind of organized progression. Sorting the letters first does that for us. (The secret is that the combinations are shown in alphabetical order. Keep that just among us!)

When you have selected all of the letters (that typically appear with a circle around them in the daily word puzzle), slide the slider to view the possible combinations.

When you see what would make a good answer to the clue, you are done!

To change the set of selected letters, press the button that says “Start Over”.

If you feel you are getting close you may want to lock one or more of the letters that are scrolling by as you slide the slider. Locking a letter will keep that letter fixed in its position in the row of blocks, as the other letters scroll by in the remaining un-

locked positions. You'll especially want to do this if part of the solution appears, such as one word out of a multiple word clue.

To lock a letter, just press on it. It will turn red to indicate that it is locked, and re-alphabetize the other letters to fill the remaining unlocked spaces. To unlock the letter, press it again, and it will return to black. Please note that once you start locking and unlocking the letters in the clue, the original set of letters at the top portion of the screen must be left alone. If you change on at the top, all of the locked positioned become unlocked. If you need to change the set of selected letters, you can of course simply press the undesired letters again, or simply start over.

Because there are vastly more combinations on the Big Slider Page than with the four individual words from earlier, the slider and the <<, >> buttons work a little differently. The slider takes you through the possible combinations at warp speed, and there could be millions, billions, trillions even (yes that's right – Trillions –with a "T", for a 15 character clue). Warp speed means that it basically skips over thousands, tens of thousands, or millions of combinations in a single increment. This gives you the chance to see a good mix of different possibilities in just a second.

When you get close, you can use the << and >> buttons to move in a more controlled fashion. On this page these buttons move through combinations in fixed amounts, based on the number of possibilities. Generally the << and >> buttons will allow you to move through 1% of the possibilities at a time. We say the "skip factor" is at 1%. You can change the skip factor if you wish, by pressing the + (plus) and - (minus) buttons. The skip factor is shown at the bottom of the page.

Good Luck!

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