



Rules and Strategies!

FIVE-letter words only.

NO duplicate letters in the SECRET WORD!

Plurals are acceptable.

NO proper nouns.

NO pejoratives.

Some slang and informal words that are currently in use are included in the dictionary and may be chosen as Secret Words.

Guessing all five *letters* doesn't mean your guess is the right *word*! (See below.)

There's no time limit, so make sure your reasoning and deductions are sound!

- Carefully choosing a SECRET WORD is the best strategy – words that contain one vowel, like PLANK, are generally good choices. Everyday words that are uncommon out of context, like SYRUP, are also good. Words that have anagrams of other words are a great choice, because your opponent might guess all the letters, but not have the right order, buying you time to make more guesses! For example, the word LIMES has three anagrams: MILES, SMILE, and SLIME.
- The next best strategy is choosing guessing words that will either confirm letters or eliminate letters. Words with multiple occurrences of specific letters are helpful for this. For example, ERROR will tell you very quickly if an “R” is in your opponent’s SECRET WORD, just as DADDY will tell you if there’s a “D”, and AJAJA will tell you if there’s an “A” and/or a “J”. (Don’t know what AJAJA means? MY WORD! includes a 6,000-plus-word dictionary for increasing your vocabulary as you play!) For more detail in using words for guessing, see the examples in the **MY WORD! Tutorial**.
- Use the **Alphabet Tools!** Use the colors to track your progress: A **long press on any letter** will bring up a palette of colors to use with different possibilities from different words (see **TUTORIAL** for an example).
- When you’ve got four letters of your opponent’s SECRET WORD and you want to make a guess, look at your alphabet and pay attention to the letters that you haven’t yet eliminated. Try plugging each one into the mix and seeing if you get a word.
- You can use the MY GUESS pad to assemble your guesses and, when you’ve confirmed some letters, play with possibilities on the pad before submitting your guess.
- Once you’ve gotten all five letters, you may realize that you don’t know the word (especially if playing on the HARD level with the AI or with an especially erudite friend! 😊) – keep rearranging the letters until you win!