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Ruzzle

Kati Penovich

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App Review

App Name: Ruzzle

Developer: MAG Interactive

Reviewer: Kati Penovich

Version/Update: 2.1.13

Category: Games

Platforms Available: Apple, Android

Device Used: iPhone 5s

Interest Level: Intermediate, Young Adult

Rating: Excellent



Review

Ruzzle is a spelling game, similar to the board game Boggle. You spell words by swiping your finger across the screen and highlighting the letters. You can highlight letters in all directions - up, down, diagonally, to the side - as long as the letters in the word are highlighted sequentially. To start a new game, you can choose to challenge a Facebook friend, a Twitter follower, a Ruzzle friend, a previous opponent, or a random opponent. You don't need a Facebook or Twitter account to play, however—you just need to create a Ruzzle account (connecting to other social media sites is optional). At the end of three rounds against your opponent, scores from each round are added up and the player with the highest score wins. You can also play by yourself in Practice Mode for offline games. Players gain experience from each game played, which allows them to level up. Higher level players earn certain perks. Players also gain ink and coins from each round, which can be used to purchase useful features in the Ruzzle store.

Ruzzle is easy to learn how to play. It is a simple and fun game that helps players of a variety of ages practice spelling and keep their brains working. Because games are played against other real people, sometimes you have to wait for the other person to play their round before you can continue playing, but you can always start a new game at any time by challenging someone else. Ruzzle stays fun because you learn new words from each round, especially if you check out the words your opponent used or purchase the tool that lists every possible word that was on the board after the game is over. One potential worry about younger children using Ruzzle is that the game includes a chat feature which allows players to send messages to each other, regardless of if you know the other person or not. There is no way to turn the chat function off. However, messages from other players do not pop up and are easily ignored. The game itself is free to play but does offer in-app purchases. The free version of the game includes a small ad bar across the bottom (but not while you are playing the game) and a video ad plays after each round. You can remove ads by paying \$2.99, which may or may not be worth it depending on how much you play the game and how much the ads bother you. Overall, Ruzzle is a fun way to compete against others and learn new words.

*In-App purchases are available.