MahJongg 5 for PalmOS®

USER GUIDE

*All you need is the tip of the stylus and a
bit of your imagination…*

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What is Mah Jongg 5

Mah Jongg 5 for Palm OS is a tile-matching solitaire game. It is played with tiles borrowed from a Chinese game named Mah Jongg.

Tiles are arranged on a playground in shapes resembling animals, physical objects, symbols, etc., called layouts. The goal of the tile-matching game is to clear the whole playground by removing matching pairs of tiles.

The Chinese game is a more complex game for four people. Sources say today form of Mah Jongg is invented in the late 1800 in the Ningpo area of China. Then it is introduced in the Shanghai colony fro where it spreads to the USA, Japan and then Europe and other places.

Chinese Mah Jongg is not just an ordinary game – it is full of Chinese symbolism (each tile, the colors used to paint the tiles, the game rules – everything has its own meaning, creating a picture of the world these people lived in) and presents a considerable intellectual challenge for the times it is invented.

The name Mah Jongg translated means the flowers "flax/hemp" and "sparrow clattering" – it is said that the concentrated player hears "the flax blowing in the wind and the sparrows clattering".

Touch the Chinese spirit with Mah Jongg 5 for Palm OS, clear your mind...

Features and Requirements

Key Features

➢ Up to 200 hand-picked layouts (see the table below).

➢ Point of View – unique, extremely valuable function when searching for a move.

➢ Peek-under-a-tile – unique, allows you once in a game to see all tiles covered by a selected tile;

Requirements (both required)

➢ Palm OS 5.0 or above.

➢ Screen Size 320x320 pixels or bigger.

Available Layouts

The available layouts depend on your device characteristics, as follows:

Device	Layouts
320x320 pixels screen size	101
320x480, portrait mode only!	171
480x320 – landscape mode only	130
480x320 and 320x480 – screen rotation available	200

Installing MahJongg 5

Supported devices

MahJongg 5 runs only on devices with both:

➢ Palm OS version 5.0 and above;

➢ Screen Size 320x320 or bigger (320x480, 480x320 and rotations are supported).

To install MahJongg 5, you need to install 2 files:
- the main game file;
- a skin file containing the game images.

Installation Steps

Please, perform the following easy steps:

1. Extract the whole distribution .zip file in an empty folder like "c:\temp\mj5";
2. Double-click the mahjongg5.prc file to place it in the Install Tool;
3. Select and open one of the subfolders and place the contained skin file – mahjongg5skin.pdb – in the Install Tool, too.
4. Perform a HotSync.

That's all – MahJongg 5 is installed on your Palm OS device.

Selecting a skin file

There are 2 skin files available:

➢ For 320x320 pixels screen size (Tungsten|T, Zire 72, etc);

➢ For 320x480 and/or 480x320 pixels screen size (Tungsten|T3, LifeDrive, etc.)

➢ **!!!** When you extract the whole distribution archive, each skin is located in a subfolder named by the respective screen size.

Skin Tips

➢ You can install the 320x320 skin on a 320x480 and/or 480x320 device – you'll save some space, but less game layouts will be available to play.

➢ If your device has screen size 320x480 and/or 480x320 and you install the respective skin, more game layouts will be available to play!

➢ Please, see the Layouts section for information on the numbers of available game layouts!

➢ You can not install the HiRes+ skin on a device with 320x320 pixels screen size.

Starting The Game

After you install MahJongg 5, it will appear in your launcher application under the name "MJ5".
Please, see Fig. 1 for illustration!

When you start MahJongg5, a title screen will open – tap it to continue to the Menu screen.
See the Options section below for information how to bypass the Title screen.

Fig. 1 – The MahJongg 5 icon.

Fig 2 - The Title screen – tap it to continue.

The Menu Screen

The menu screen allows you to access different parts of the game.

Tap each text or icon to go to a different screen. Each different screen is explained in the further sections.

Fig 3 - The Menu screen – access different parts of the application from here.

Commands list

➢ <u>Other Titles</u> – opens a screen with information about other Palm OS applications developed by us.

➢ <u>Register</u> – if you decide to register MahJongg 5 you'll receive a registration code. Enter it in the screen that opens when you tap this text.

➢ <u>Help</u> – short help texts. Please, read this manual for detailed information about the game.

➢ <u>Options</u> – allows you to set general options for the application.

➢ <u>Play</u> – leads to the play screen!

➢ <u>Home icon</u> – tap it to exit MahJongg 5.

➢ <u>Rotation icon</u> – if you have a HiRes+ device with screen rotation support a rotation icon will be available next to the Home one. Tap the screen rotation icon to change the screen orientation.

The Other Titles and Help Screens

Each of the two screens is opened by the respective text button in the Menu screen.

The two screens present scrollable text. The text is scrolled with the two buttons located at the right of the top part of the text.

The picture at right illustrates the Other Titles screen.

Note: Please, note that the Help screen contains significantly less information compared to this User Guide.

We advise you to read or at least take a look at each page of this User Guide!

Fig 4 – The Other Titles screen with the text scrolling buttons marked.

The Register Screen

Limitations of the DEMO version

MahJongg 5 is distributed as shareware application. Everything in the application is functioning, with the following limitation:

Shareware Limitation

The DEMO version of MahJongg 5 will not allow you to fully finish a game.

It will break your game randomly around the middle and will show you a "demo mode" message.

You can test any layout, tiles set, mode, but you will not be able to finish a game.
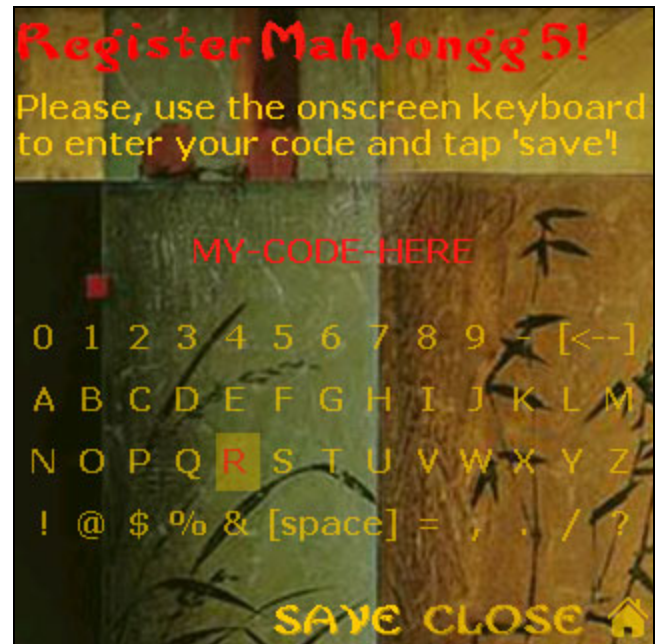

Fig 5 – The Register screen. If you like MahJogg 5 – register it and enter the registration code here!

Registering MahJongg 5

Register MahJongg 5 on your favourite Palm OS related web site. When you register, you will receive a registration code like this ABCDE-12345-FGHIJ. Enter this code as is, without any modifications, in the Register screen.

That's all – enjoy MahJongg 5!

And have more fun!

The Options Screen

There are only 2 general options in this version of MahJongg 5.

Set the options on this screen – the values are saved automatically.

> **Options**
>
> ➢ Sounds – check this box to activate the sounds and tunes in MahJongg 5.
>
> ➢ Start into Play Screen – if set to "on", when you start the game, it take you directly to the Play screen.
>
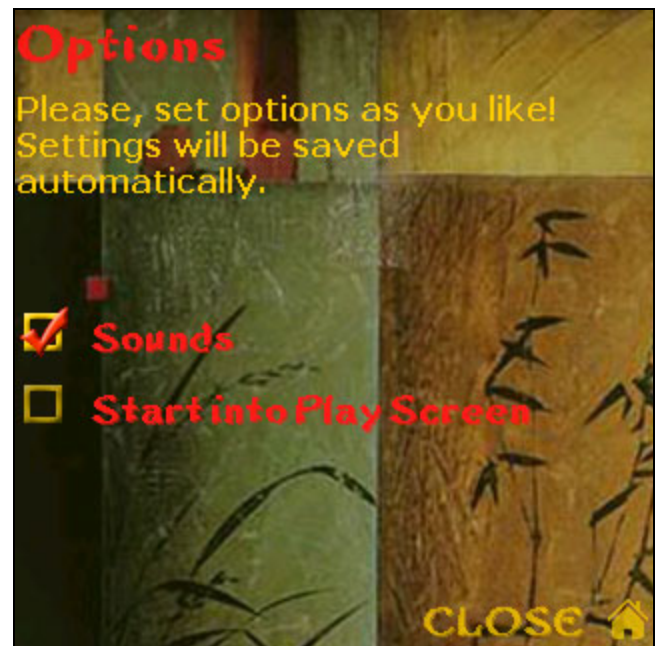>   If set to "off" – you'll see the Title screen and then the Menu screen.

Fig 6 – The Options screen with the Sounds set to "on" and the Start into Play Screen set to "off".

The Play Screen

Play Controls

Please, check the picture at the right and the description of the bottom line elements that follows!

Play Controls (left to right)

➢ New Game – tap to open the New Game screen and start a new game with new settings.

➢ Menu – returns you to the Menu screen.

➢ Home – tap it to exit MahJongg 5.

➢ ? (Hint) – tap to see up to 3 removable pairs flashing for a while.

➢ Eye (Peek) – select a tile and tap to see all tiles that lay under the selected one. You can peek only under a tile that is placed directly above one or more other tiles and can peek only once in a game!

➢ Point of View – tap the arrow to select different view angle for the layout – really helps when you search for a move!

➢ Score % - show the amount of cleared tiles, expressed in percents.

➢ Moves – shows the number of currently available removable pairs. If this is 0 (zero) – the game is over.

Fig 7 – The Play Screen.

Gameplay

➢ The goal of the game is to clear all tiles from the screen.

➢ Tiles are cleared by pairs or removable tiles.

➢ Removable is tile that has no other tile covering it from above and at least one of its vertical sides is completely free (not touching another tile).

➢ Select a removable tile – tap it or use the Centre button of the 5Way Navigator – and it will start to flash lightly.

➢ Then select another removable tile that matches the first one and both will vanish!

Tiles and Matching

The complete tiles set contains 144 pieces. There are 42 different tiles with varying quantities – 1 or 4 – that build up the set.

Here is picture of all 42 kinds with their respective grouping

Fig 8 – All MahJongg tiles.

First are the Circles or Dots – valued from 1 to 9 (and painted with 1 to 9 dots), there are 4 tiles from each kind (for a total of 36 Circles tiles). Circles tiles should be matched exactly for removal – the tile 1 can be only matched with another 1. These tiles are associated with money and business.

Next are the Bamboos or Sticks – valued from 1 to 9, 4 tiles of a kind, exact matching. Bamboo is the tree with most uses in China – from food to boat and home building. These tiles are associated with the virtues of strength, integrity and service.

Third are Numbers or Characters – same as Circles and Bamboos. The red symbol in the lower part means 10

000, or generally any large number or unlimited value.

Next come the four winds – East, South, West and North. Winds have central position in the Chinese Mah Jongg – they symbolize the four directions of the world and the four players are named by the winds. There are 4 tiles of each kind (total of 16) and the matching is exact.

Fifth are the Flowers – Plum Blossom, Orchid, Chrysanthemum and Bamboo –additional tiles in the Chinese game, known as "The Four Nobles". There is only 1 tile of each flower kind and they can be matched freely – any flower with any flower.

Next come the four Seasons – Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter. Four different professions could also represent these. Seasons and Flowers were called "The Eight Guardians" to make a parallel with the "Eight Guardians of Taoism" – eight mortal beings who were brought to the celestial realms because of their asceticism and pious work. Tiles are 1 for each kind and can be matched freely.

Finally come the Dragons – red, green and white. Dragons are most valuable tiles in Chinese Mah Jongg, known as "Superior Honor Tiles". There are 4 tiles of each kind (total of 12) and tiles must be matched exactly.

The contemporary tiles set has the Bamboos and the Characters replaced by Roman and Arabic numbers.

5Way Navigator Support

From the moment you start MahJongg 5 you can perform all actions (set it up, register, play and exit the game) with the 5Way Navigator only!

5Way Navigator Tips

➢ 100% support – do any action!

➢ The currently focused screen item is brighter than the rest items.

➢ The focused button/checkbox is pressed with the Centre of the 5Way Navigator.

➢ The Layouts list in the New Game screen scrolls with Up/Down and quits to the prev/next screen element with Left/Right.

In the Play Screen

➢ Directions will tour you through all removable tiles.

➢ As the layout may be complex, sometimes a direction press may not lead to the tile you expect – "curve back" to the tile you want.

➢ Centre selects/deselects a tile (like a stylus tap). The selected tile will flash and you can keep moving to the next tile to select.

WinLauncher

Get other new and exciting titles form us – check your favorite Palm OS web site!

WinLauncher

➢   The new launcher for Palm OS! Done right!

➢   WinLauncher is available for ANY device that has Palm OS version 3.5 or above.

➢   Including LifeDrive and Treo Phones!

➢   Please, check the screenshots at right to see what WinLauncher offers!

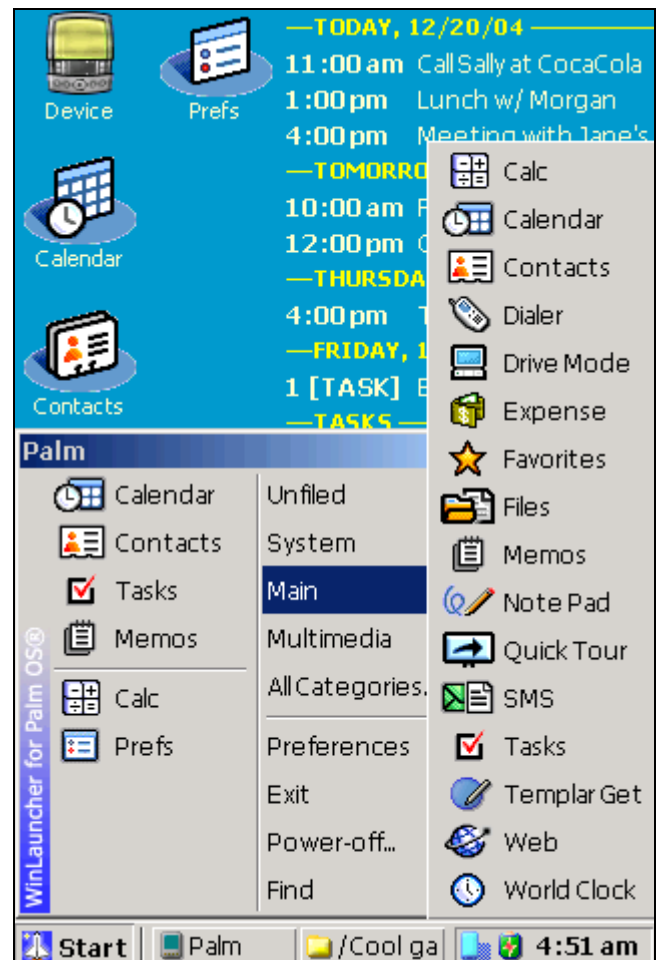➢   You can always try the demo and ask us any question you may have!
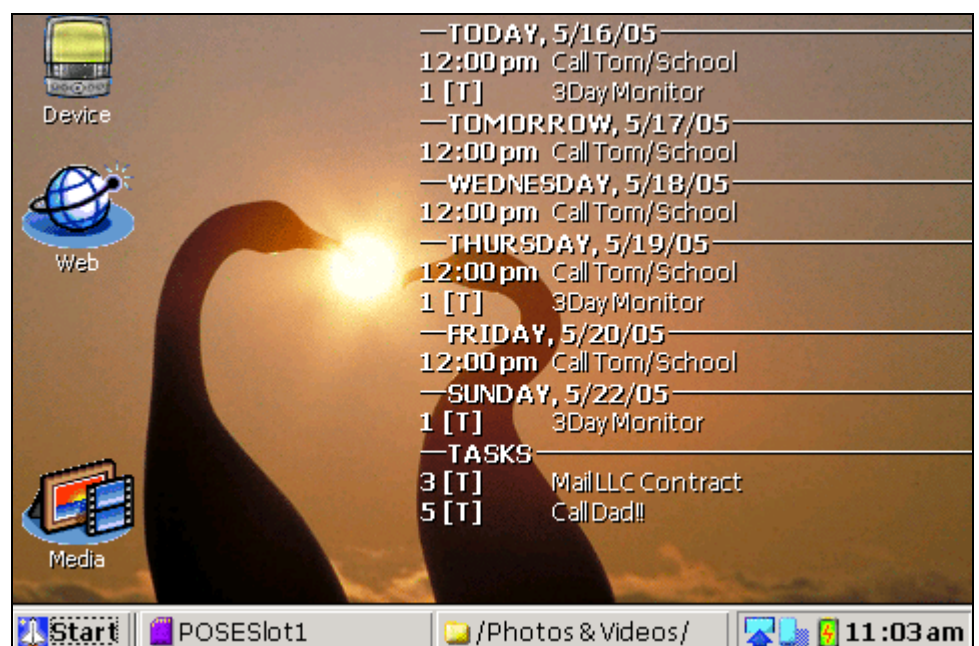

Fig 9. WinLauncher.

Fig 10 – WinLauncher with a Desktop wallpaper

Feedback and Support

Contacting Aylin.biz

Our website address is:
http://www.aylin.biz

The support email address is:
support@aylin.biz

You make the difference!

We'll be glad to hear your feedback and ideas!
This product is made because of a customers demand and will be developed further again by the customers demand.

And finally,
Have more fun!

Legal

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