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Please study this instruction manual carefully for maximum enjoyment of your game. Then lock it in a safe place for future reference and proceed to use your knowledge to destroy your opponents!

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DO YOU HAVE THE INSTINCT?

PROLOGUE: A wind-swept battlefield of the distant past, littered with the debris of war. Above the moans and cries of the defeated can still be heard the clashing sounds of a single titanic confrontation. Two great warlords, leaders of their now smashed armies, are locked in battle, with the world itself as the prize. But this epic battle is not to have a conclusion. Suddenly, the warlords were engulfed in a nimbus of light, and vanished from the face of the earth, banished to the realm of Limbo. The battle-weary heroes whose spell had trapped the warlords heaved a sigh of relief. Armageddon had been averted, for now.

THE FUTURE: The world has seen much progress in the centuries since the warlords were banished, not all of it for good. Pollution has weakened the environment. Governments have fallen. Chaos rules, with huge mega-corporations battling and destroying each other for shares of the world’s wealth.

In this bleak world, a single corporation, Ultratech, rises above the others. Rather than joining in direct battles with their competitors, Ultratech has profited from their suffering by selling them the very weapons they use against each other. Sales of weaponry are not the only source of profit for Ultratech, however. Their entertainment division produces the top rated television broadcast of the future, the Killer Instinct tournament, which also serves as a testing ground for Ultratech’s weapons. The winners of the tournament are promised whatever they desire. The losers suffer a significantly poorer fate.

It is into this bloody contest that our heroes have been drawn. T.J. Combo, disgraced heavyweight champion of the world who seeks redemption. Glacious, a captured alien fighting for his life and a chance to escape. And the deadly robot Fulgore, programmed by Ultratech with a Killer Instinct and the freedom to use it. Each fights for his or her own reasons, but each has the same goal: win the tournament and destroy all opponents.

It will take more than radical moves and deadly special attacks to win this tournament. It will take a will, a desire; it will take a Killer Instinct.
CONTROL YOURSELF

+ CONTROL PAD

Up (↑) = Jump
Down (↓) = Duck
Left (←) and Right (→) = Move
Back (← or →) away from opponent = Block High
Back and Down (↖ or ↷) away from opponent = Block Low
L Button = Quick Punch
R Button = Quick Kick
Select Button = Select Fighter

X Button = Fierce Punch
A Button = Fierce Kick
Y Button = Medium Punch
B Button = Medium Kick

LOOK OUT!

The Killer Instinct tournament is organized into rounds. Each round lasts 100 seconds. During that time, each player must attempt to take away both of the other player’s life bars by doing physical damage to him. The first life bar is green to yellow; the second life bar is yellow to red. Between life bars, there will be a brief pause as the fighter who lost his life bar gets up off the ground, but otherwise the action is continuous through the entire 100 seconds.

If the 100 second timer runs out, the fighter who has the most energy in his or her life bar will win.

You score points during the fight for pulling off combos or other special moves. Obviously, the more impressive combos, like Ultras and Ultimates, are worth the most points.
One or Two Player

On the main title screen, you will have the choice of playing a one player or two player game. In the one player game, you choose a character and use him or her to fight against the other characters in the tournament, who are controlled by the computer. Your ultimate goal: a showdown with Eyedol.

In the two player game, you play against another human player. You can play either a single game at a time, or set up a Tournament.

Tournament Set-Up

In the tournament mode, you can enter the names of up to eight different players. The computer will then set up the matches between players and keep track of each player’s win-loss record. The computer will also make sure everyone takes turns, just like in the arcade (loser goes to the end of the line, bub!)

Practice Mode

In this mode, you fight a defenseless character who simply stands there and takes whatever you can dish out.

Controller Configuration

On the Options Screen, you can configure the buttons so they are assigned to the move you desire. To change a button’s assignment, use the Control Pad + to highlight the move you want to change (for example, Fierce Punch) and then press the button you want to assign to that move. Use this option if you have a joystick to make the game play exactly like in the arcade!

There are several other settings you can adjust on the Options screen:

DIFFICULTY: This setting can be tweaked to make the computer controlled characters tougher to defeat.

EASY BREAKERS: With this ON, Combo Breakers are easier to do.

RANDOM SELECT: Forces you to random select.

TIMER: Turn the timer off and your fights will last until one of the characters is defeated.

Selecting characters

Once you have the options set the way you want them, it’s time to select your character. If you don’t know the fighters, you should definitely study the fighter profiles on pages 16-22. Scroll through the fighters using the Control Pad. You can press Up and Down on the Control Pad to change the color palette of the character. Press any button to select the fighter you want to use. Once your opponent has selected his fighter, get ready to FIGHT!
**Basic Moves**

Each fighter in the Killer Instinct tournament has basic moves that are similar. In the human characters, these are usually punches or kicks of various degrees of ferocity. The non-human characters use other means of attacking. Each attack has three levels of intensity: quick, medium and fierce.

**Quick Punch / Kick / Bite / Sword**

No matter what method of attack is used, a Quick attack is just that; it's fast but doesn't do a lot of damage. However, it can be difficult to get an attack in on an opponent who is unleashing a flurry of quick punches.

**Medium Punch / Kick / Bite / Sword**

A Medium attack is somewhere in between a Quick and Fierce attack in terms of speed and damage caused. It is possible to perform Medium attacks quite rapidly, but this requires some timing.

**Fierce Punch / Kick / Bite / Sword**

Fierce attacks are devastating, but are somewhat slow. It's possible to counter-attack after a Fierce attack if you time it correctly.

**Blocking**

Denying your opponent a clear strike is the best way to avoid damage (duh!) in any fighting game. In Killer Instinct, blocking skills are especially essential. To block a move, hold the Control Pad cross away from the attacking character. If correctly blocked, any normal move (Quick, Medium or Fierce) will not do any damage. To block correctly, you must master blocking high and low.

**Blocking High**

If you just stand there and block, that will be good enough to block an attacker who is just standing there, or even one who is jumping in on you. However, if your enemy tries to get sneaky, and attacks low, blocking high will not be enough.

**Blocking Low**

Press Down and away from the attacker on the Control Pad and you will block low. Blocking low is necessary to block low attacks, such as sweeps. Sometimes you can also block standing attacks while ducking, but don't count on it. The only problem with blocking low is it leaves you open to a top attack.

**Top Attack**

If your opponent is blocking low, you can top attack over the top of their defense. To do this, press away from your opponent on the Control Pad cross and press Fierce Punch.

**Uppercut**

Some characters can perform an uppercut by pressing Down on the Control Pad and Fierce Punch. This is especially useful when an attacker jumps at you. Several characters do not have uppercuts, but they have special move counter-attacks against jumping attackers.

**Sweep**

Press Down and Fierce Kick next to a standing opponent to execute a sweep attack. If you hit, it will knock your foe down. Not every character has a sweep move.

**Duck**

Press Down on the Control Pad and your character will duck. From this position, he or she can attack low. Some characters, like Sabrewulf, can actually avoid some attacks this way.

**Special Moves**

Each character also has a finite selection of special moves to use in combat. Each character's special moves are different, and usually require the use of buttons in combination with the Control Pad cross. These techniques are introduced on page 15. The character's bios starting on page 16 give the actual button combinations you need to execute to perform the special moves.
So, you’ve mastered the basics of pounding each other. Now it’s time to learn a combo or two. Combos are basically a combination of buttons that produces multiple hits. Now, these hits aren’t really free, as you must connect with the first one in order to activate the combo. However, a successful combo can give you many extra hits for the low price of just a few button presses. It’s possible to get a 30 hit combo for a mere 6 button presses! But that will come later. First, you must learn the law of Jump-In Auto-Doubles.

**JUMP-IN AUTO-Doubles**

In order to perform a Jump-In Auto-Double, you must first jump-in and attack your opponent, successfully hitting them. Once you have scored the first hit, if you press the proper button next, you will not only get your first hit, but you will also get two or three bonus hits. The whole sequence will register as a Triple Combo or Super Combo. The trick is to know what pair of buttons will produce the Auto-Double. It’s easiest to imagine the buttons on the controller as if they were connected as shown in the diagram below:

**AUTO DOUBLE DIAGRAM USING SNES PAD**

You can tell from this diagram (shown here using the default Control Pad layout) that if you jump-in and hit, for example with a Fierce Kick, pressing Medium Punch immediately after the first hit should trigger at least a Triple Combo. Note that although the arrows go both ways in the diagram (Fierce Punch to Medium Kick and Medium Kick to Fierce Punch) not every Auto-Double button combination will work with every character.

**OPENERS**

The jump-in attack is what is known as an “Opener” move. This means that if this initial attack is successful, your opponent is briefly open to whatever combo series you want to punish him or her with. Each character also has several special moves that function as openers. If you hit with an Opener move, there is at least one button (sometimes more) that you can press to get an Auto-Double.

**TOP ATTACK AUTO-DOUBLE**

Top Attacks are also Openers.

**LINKERS**

So what do you do once you have mastered Triple and Super Combos? You extend your combo tally using moves known as Linkers. After you have successfully hit your opponent with an Auto-Double, you can continue to combo them by following the last hit of the Auto-Double with a Linker move and another Auto-Double button.

**END SPECIALS**

The best way to finish a combo is an end special, which can be added after any Auto-Double or Linker. End Special are listed in each character’s profile. An example of a complete combo sequence would be:

- Jump-In hit
- Auto-Double button
- Linker
- Auto-Double button
- End Special.
There's nothing that can make you feel quite as helpless as a multi-hit combo. So what can you do about it besides put the Control Pad down and grab some soda and chips? You can bust out a Combo Breaker, that's what!

Each fighter has a special move that will function as a Combo Breaker. A Combo Breaker can potentially interrupt any part of a combo—Auto-Double, Linker, and End Special (but not the final hits of an Ultra Combo). The key is to use the proper Combo Breaker to break the move. This takes practice and a keen eye, plus vast knowledge of every character’s Openers, Linkers and Auto-Doubles.

Combo Breakers can be summed up as follows:

Quick breaks Medium.
Medium breaks Fierce.
Fierce breaks Quick.

The best way to envision Combo Breakers is like the game “Scissors, Paper, Rock.” The correct combo breaker will beat your opponent’s attack. To break an opener sequence or an end finisher, you must perform the combo breaker using the button that breaks the button your opponent is using. So if he hits you with a Fierce opener, you can break with your Quick combo breaker.

Since you can break a Linker with any of the buttons (Quick, Medium or Fierce), it’s risky to do long combos. However, you still have to learn the timing to do the combo breaker and that only comes with practice.

Breaking a combo does several things. First of all, it gets you out of the humiliating sequence of hits and damage, and it throws your opponent for a loop! Second of all, all characters have some moves that are enhanced after they have broken a combo. We have left these advanced post-breaker moves for you to discover on your own.

Each of the character biographies on the following pages details the fighter’s special moves. There are three general categories of Special Moves: Charge Moves, Roll Moves and Tap Moves.

**Charge Moves**
involve holding the Control Pad cross in the indicated direction for about two seconds (it can help to count 1-2), then pressing in the opposite direction with an attack button.

**Roll Moves**
are done by performing a rolling motion on the Control Pad cross, and then pressing an attack button. The instructions indicate the key directional points you must hit during the rolling motion, but you should always try to hit all points in-between. A smooth, even rolling motion is best; you don’t have to do it super fast.

**Tap Moves**
are performed by tapping the control pad cross in the indicated direction and then pressing an attack button immediately afterward.

As you practice these moves (and it will take practice, especially if you haven’t played a lot of fighting games before) they will become second nature. When you first do the moves, try to do them slowly and deliberately for maximum accuracy. Once you’re proficient, you’ll be able to pull them off second nature.

Here is the key to the symbols used in the bios:

Op = Quick Punch Button
Ok = Quick Kick Button
Mp = Medium Punch Button
Mk = Medium Kick Button
Fp = Fierce Punch Button
Fk = Fierce Kick Button
← = Press Control Pad cross away from opponent
→ = Press Control Pad cross towards opponent
+= A sequence of buttons

“Move Name” “Button” = Do the move using the indicated button
**T.J. COMBO**
AGE: 25
HEIGHT: 6'1"
WEIGHT: 220 lbs.

T.J. Combo was once the undisputed heavyweight champion of the world for five years straight. He was stripped of his title for his brutal methods of punishing opponents. He now fights to regain his fame and fortune.

**Special Moves**
- Powerline: Charge → then → and Fp
- Rollercoaster: Charge → then → and Mp (goes through fireballs)
- Spin Fist: Charge → then → and Ok
- Flying Knee: Charge → then → and Fk
- Knee K.O.: Charge → then → and Mk
- Fast Flying Knee: Charge → then → and Ok
- Turn Around Punch: Charge → then → and Op
- Cyclone: Charge Fp then release

**Example of Valid Opener:** Rollercoaster + Fk
**End Specials:** Powerline, Rollercoaster, Spin Fist
**Combo Breaker:** → then → and any kick
**Danger Moves:** → → Mp = Chiropractor
**Ultra Combo:** → → Fp

---

**JAGO**
AGE: 21
HEIGHT: 5'6"
WEIGHT: 190 lbs.

Jago is a mysterious warrior monk from a remote region of Tibet. Guided by the powerful Tiger Spirit to seek his destiny, he has been lead to the Killer Instinct tournament to destroy the evil within.

**Special Moves**
- Endokouken: → → and any punch
- Wind Kick: → → and any kick (goes through projectiles)
- Laser Sword: → → Fp
- Tiger Fury: → → → → and any punch

**Example of Valid Opener:** Wind Kick Fk + Mk
**End Specials:** Tiger Fury, Endokouken Op, Wind Kick Mk
**Combo Breaker:** Tiger Fury
**Danger Move:** → → Op Sword
**Ultra Combo:** Wind Kick Ok

---

**FULGORE**
AGE: 1
HEIGHT: 6'5"
WEIGHT: 580 lbs.

A prototype cybernetic soldier developed by Ultratech, Fulgore was entered into the Killer Instinct tournament as a final test of its combat capabilities. Once its abilities are proven, mass production will begin.

**Special Moves**
- Laser Storm (single): → → → → → and any punch
- Laser Storm (two shots): → → → → and Op
- Laser Storm (three shots): → → → → → → → → → Op
- Plasma-port: → → → → → → → → → and any button
- Plasma slash: → → → → → → → → → → → and any punch
- Eyelaser: → → Fk
- Cyberdash: Charge → then → and any kick
- Reflect: → → and any punch

**Example of Valid Opener:** Eyelaser Fk + Mk
**End Specials:** Laser Storm Mp, Plasma slice Fp, Plasma-port Op, Cyberdash Mk
**Combo Breaker:** Plasma slice
**Danger Move:** → → Fk, Gun’em down
**Ultra Combo:** Plasma slice Op

---

**B.ORCHID**
AGE: 28
HEIGHT: 5'8"
WEIGHT: 125 lbs.

B. Orchid is a secret agent, sent by an unknown group to investigate the mysterious disappearances that surround the Killer Instinct tournament. Her true identity and abilities are shrouded in secrecy.

**Special Moves**
- Lasaken: → → → → → → and any punch
- Rick Flak: Charge → then → and any kick
- Fire Cat: Charge → then → and any punch
- Spinning Sword: → → → + Fp
- Ich: → → → + Mp (or Op)

**Example of Valid Opener:** Fire Cat Mp + Fp
**End Specials:** Spinning Sword Fp, Lasaken Fp, Rick Flack Mk
**Combo Breaker:** Rick Flak
**Danger Move:** → → Ok (press Fk to stomp) Frog
**Ultra Combo:** → → Mp
**CHIEF THUNDER**
AGE: 42
HEIGHT: 6'2"
WEIGHT: 280 lbs.

Mystical defender of Native American people, Chief Thunder enters the Killer Instinct tournament to solve the mystery behind the disappearance of his brother, Eagle, in the previous year's tournament.

**Special Moves:**
- Phoenix: any kick
- Sammannish: charge then and any punch
- Triplex: while in mid-air, any kick or any punch
- Tomahawk: charge then and Mp
- Reverse Triplex: charge then and Mp

**Example of Valid Opener:** Tomahawk + Ok
**End Specials:** Triplex Fp, Phoenix Fk, Sammannish Mp + Fp
**Combo Breaker:** Sammannish
**Danger Move:** Phoenix Fp Lightning
**Ultra Combo:** Op

---

**RIPTOR**
AGE: 9
HEIGHT: 7'0"
WEIGHT: 100 lbs.

Riptor is a product of Ultratech’s DNA Manipulation Project. By splicing human and reptilian genes, they have created a fighting creature with animal ferocity and human intelligence.

**Special Moves:**
- Claw Uppercut: Op
- Tailflip: any kick
- Flaming Venom: any punch
- Dragon Breath: Fp
- Jump Rake: charge then any kick
- Rampage: charge then any punch
- Reverse Jump Rake: then M.K or Ok

**Example of Valid Opener:** Jump Rake Ok + Op
**End Specials:** Flaming Venom Fp, Tailflip M.K, Claw Uppercut
**Combo Breaker:** Jump Rake
**Danger Move:** M.K. Deadly Venom
**Ultra Combo:** Ok

---

**SPINAL**
AGE: 2650
HEIGHT: 5'5"
WEIGHT: 100 lbs.

Spinal’s origin is a closely guarded secret of Ultratech. A secret branch of the corporation, using a variety of special techniques, have succeeded in reviving an ancient warrior. With only the vaguest memories of his past life, Spinal knows how to do only one thing, fight!

**Special Moves:**
- Skeleport: any kick or punch
- Power Decoy: hold Op
- Seering Skull: any punch (after charging shield with projectile)
- Soul Sword: charge and Mp
- Bone Shaker: any punch
- Super Seering Skull: charge and Fp (after absorbing projectile)
- Sliding Kick: Fk

**Example of Valid Opener:** Bone Shaker Mp + Mp
**End Specials:** Skeleport any punch, Bone Shaker any punch
**Combo Breaker:** Bone Shaker
**Danger Move:** Ok Stab
**Ultra Combo:** Fp

---

**SABREWULF**
AGE: 95
HEIGHT: 5'11"
WEIGHT: 900 lbs.

Sabrewulf is afflicted with the rare disease, Lycanthropy. Although he has spent most of his life as a recluse, he enters the Killer Instinct Tournament on the promise of a cure if he is victorious.

**Special Moves:**
- Sabrespin: charge then and any punch
- Flaming Bat: any punch
- Howl: Fk
- Sabrepounce: charge then and Fk
- Sabrestrap: charge then and Mk
- Sabreroll: charge then and Ok
- Reverse Sabrespin: charge then and Mp

**Example of Valid Opener:** Sabrepounce + Mp
**End Specials:** Sabrespin Ok, Sabrepounce, Sabreroll, Sabrestrap
**Combo Breaker:** Any Kick
**Danger Move:** M.K. Claw
**Ultra Combo:** Ok
**GLACIUS**
**AGE:** Unknown
**HEIGHT:** 6’9”
**WEIGHT:** 300 lbs.

Glacius is an alien being from a distant planet. When his spaceship crash-landed on Earth, he was captured by Ultratech. Hoping to prove these alien beings to be inferior, Ultratech forced him to fight his life in the Killer Instinct tournament.

**Special Moves:**
- Shockwave: $\downarrow\rightarrow\rightarrow\rightarrow$ and any punch
- Cold Shoulder: Charge $\rightarrow$ then $\rightarrow\rightarrow\rightarrow$ and any punch
- Ice Lance: $\downarrow\downarrow\rightarrow$ Op
- Liquidize: $\downarrow\rightarrow\rightarrow\rightarrow$ and any kick

**Example of Valid Opener:** Cold Shoulder Fp + Op

**End Specials:** Shockwave, Fp, Liquidize, Fk, Ice Lance

**Combo Breaker:** $\rightarrow$ then $\rightarrow\rightarrow\rightarrow$ and any punch

**Danger Move:** $\downarrow\rightarrow\rightarrow\rightarrow$ Mp Ice Pick

**Ultra Combo:** $\leftarrow\rightarrow$ Fp

---

**CINDER**
**AGE:** 31
**HEIGHT:** 6’2”
**WEIGHT:** 195 lbs.

Cinder was a convicted criminal who agreed to participate in Ultratech’s chemical weapons test in exchange for early parole. A failed experiment turned him into a being of living flame. He has now been offered freedom if he can defeat Glacius in the Killer Instinct tournament.

**Special Moves:**
- Inferno: $\rightarrow\rightarrow\rightarrow\rightarrow$ and any kick
- Fireflash: $\rightarrow\uparrow\leftarrow\rightarrow\rightarrow\rightarrow$ and any kick
- Heartist: $\leftarrow\rightarrow\rightarrow\rightarrow$ Op
- Heatsink: $\rightarrow\downarrow\leftarrow\rightarrow\rightarrow\rightarrow$ Mp
- Mirage: $\rightarrow\downarrow\leftarrow\rightarrow\rightarrow\rightarrow$ Mp
- Trailblazer: Charge $\rightarrow$ then $\rightarrow\rightarrow\rightarrow$ and any punch
- In air, $\rightarrow\rightarrow\rightarrow$ and any punch

**Example of Valid Opener:** Trailblazer Mp + Op

**End Specials:** Trailblazer Mp, Fireflash Fk, Fireflash Mk, Fireflash Ok

**Combo Breaker:** Fireflash

**Danger Move:** $\downarrow\rightarrow\rightarrow\rightarrow$ Ok Inferno

**Ultra Combo:** $\leftarrow\rightarrow$ Fp

---

**EYEDOL**
**AGE:** That would be telling
**HEIGHT:** Too tall
**WEIGHT:** Really heavy

Eyedol is Ultratech’s trump card. Remember the warlords from the Prologue story? Well, Eyedol is one of them.

Ultratech’s scientists snatched him out of limbo to do battle with the finalist in this year’s Killer Instinct tournament.

Little did they realize what kind of power they were releasing when they set Eyedol free from his magical prison...

As the final enemy in the game, Eyedol usually cannot be selected as a character you can use to fight through the Killer Instinct tournament. There is rumored to be a method for selecting Eyedol, but there is no information available about his special moves, combos, and other fighting techniques. If you discover the way to release Eyedol, you play him at your own risk.
So you’ve mastered all the basic combos; jump-ins, openers, linkers and end finishers. Well that’s far from all you’ll find in Killer Instinct! Below you’ll find some of the more advanced tricks, but we’re going to leave it to you to find some of the really special moves (like Air Doubles, Shadow Moves and Post Breaker Specials). Keep building upon your knowledge of Auto-Doubles and you’ll be surprised how many new moves you can discover.

Danger Moves
When you have your opponent on the ropes and basically defeated, you can perform a Danger Move on him or her. You will only have a few seconds to perform the move. Some of the Danger Moves require special timing, or that you stand a certain distance from your victim. We’ve only listed a few, you’ll have to find the others!

Ultra Combos
If your opponent is almost defeated (his second life bar is almost gone and the bit that remains is flashing), you can perform an Ultra Combo. Basically, Ultra Combos are like special End Finishers that work when your opponent is almost defeated. Go into a combo sequence, and if you hit, finish it with the Ultra Combo move noted for the character you are using. If you do it correctly, you should get a double digit Ultra Combo, usually in excess of 20 hits. There is no way to combo break an Ultra Combo, but if you’re getting hit by one, you were almost defeated anyway.

There are many other moves and hidden secrets in Killer Instinct. In the character profiles, we have not listed all of the possible Auto-Doubles for different openers, or the linkers, etc. There are also a few special moves that we didn’t list. Try everything and see what you can find!
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