Original: Name of app: Mushhunt
How can I improve this?: Change it to Mushunt

Slogan: Forage with confidence!

Original: A mushroom cluster locator and species identifier smart phone app that helps beginner mushroom hunting hobbyists find and identify safe to eat mushrooms near them

How can I improve this?:
- It should never be absolutely recommended to ingest mushrooms. I believe this could be harmful should the app malfunction (maybe the user's photo is unclear from a dirty lense)
- The app should be more for the sake of identifying and learning about mushrooms

The App's Function

Original: From the home screen users can click on a GPS map, image recognition camera, and Mushhunt's community forum. MushHunt's built in GPS and image recognition technology allows hunters to find mushroom clusters nearby as well as providing peace of mind by scanning mushrooms to confirm they are safe to eat. Users can check out helpful tips on harvest seasons and cooking recipes or share their own advice within Mushhunt's growing Community

How can I improve this?:
- I think making the app less focused on locating the mushroom and more on identifying the mushroom they have found is a better idea. If there were to be a GPS built in the app that allows users to find mushrooms, it should be based on community members in the area pinpointing where they have personally found said mushrooms (similarly to Waze when you can report police or a crash on a given road)
- The image recognition through the camera is still good I think. Maybe the app learns based on data it collects from users too? A photo taken pulls up various options for the user to click on, read, and learn about what may be in front of them... I believe the app being absolute based on a photo can actually be dangerous
- The app should be more for the sake of identifying and learning about mushrooms
- **NEVER** ingest anything you are unsure of--like ever. A warning that should show on all IDs to ensure safety of our users
- **NEVER** trespass. A warning that should come up when launching the app to ensure safety of our users/respecting the law

Features

Beginner users to the app should be briefed on how to get the clearest ID on a mushroom. They will be asked to photograph the following through a series of illustrations (some motion graphics?)
- Close shot of a cap
- Spore bearing surface up close
- Complete side view up close
- Full cross-section
- Photograph in its place of origin

For even more accurate results, users will be asked the following. It is optional, but encouraged.
- What trees were nearby?
- Did it have an odor?
- Did any part of it bruise in color?
- Was it found in grass?
- What season is it?
- Where in the world is it located?
- What color is it?
- What height is it?

The App could have photos of multiple stages of the mushroom's life (including gills or pores)

"One of the toughest parts of foraging mushrooms is that they look different when they first come up, when they're at their "prime" and when they're beginning to decay" - Fellow Forager

The app recommends to wait two days since it has rained.

Interview for empathy map

"There are a bunch of things that make it rough but we'll go with mobility. Of course when you're foraging in the woods the ground is uneven and you might have to climb slopes and cross streams etc. and when foraging for stuff close to the ground like mushrooms, crouching down and getting up again can really suck. I have brought a cane or walking stick with me to help, or a partner to literally lend a hand to haul me back to my feet. it's also nice to have someone along to carry supplies and field guides!"

"Where I used to live (the upper peninsula) the biggest danger was getting lost. There were some wild animals, but they do avoid you. Bringing pepper spray is not a bad idea though in case you come across a bold animal or a creepy human. but yeah I always recommend carrying topo maps of an area & a compass unless you know for sure your phone is well charged and has a signal. just basic hiking/backpacking safety is good.. wearing synthetic materials so they dry out fast if you get wet, bringing extra food and water in case you do get injured or lost.
But yeah having a description of how rough the terrain is would definitely be good!"

Thoughts after interview

The app should **NOT** actively encourage the user to go outside of a comfort zone.
Reminder: Remember always be prepared if going out on a hike. Don't go beyond your limits.
Some mushrooms are dangerous to touch. Do not encourage users to touch any. If need be, wear gloves?

Random Fun Ideas:
- Pokedex format for mushrooms
- Badges earned for mushrooms on virtual satchel like boy scouts?
- Mascot (an animal that likes to forage like a squirrel)