CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for assisting a user in assembling a culinary combination according to a recipe, the recipe having one or more ingredients and one or more target amounts for the ingredients, the method comprising:

displaying information regarding the ingredients;

receiving information from a scale;

determining a progress of assembling the culinary combination based on the information from the scale; and

displaying the progress of the assembly of the culinary combination.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

converting the one or more target amounts into units of weight, if given in volumetric units.

3. The method of claim 1:

further comprising:

selecting a first ingredient from the one or more ingredients of the recipe;

wherein displaying information regarding the ingredients further comprises:

displaying a name and the target amount for the first ingredient; and

wherein determining the progress of assembling the culinary combination further comprises:

determining an amount added to the scale based on information received from the scale; and

determining a measured amount of the first ingredient based on the amount added to the scale.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein displaying the progress of the assembly of the culinary combination further comprises:

displaying a build column comprising one or more recipe blocks, including a first recipe block associated with the first ingredient.

5. The method of claim 4:

wherein selecting the first ingredient from the one or more ingredients of the recipe further comprises:

selecting the first recipe block from the one or more recipe blocks as an activated recipe block; and

wherein displaying the progress of the assembly of the culinary combination further comprises:

displaying the activated recipe block in an enhanced manner.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein selecting the first recipe block from the one or more recipe blocks as the activated recipe block is based on input received from the user.

7. The method of claim 5, displaying the progress of the assembly of the culinary combination further comprises:

displaying a portion of the activated recipe block in a different manner than a remainder of the activated recipe block, wherein the portion of the activated recipe block displayed differently is proportional to a ratio of the measured amount of the first ingredient compared to the target amount for the first ingredient.

8. The method of claim 3, further comprising:

transferring association, upon user command, of the amount added to the scale from the measured amount of the first ingredient to a measured

amount of a second ingredient from the one or more ingredients of the recipe.

9. The method of claim 3, further comprising:

changing a scaling factor of the recipe if the measured amount of the first ingredient exceeds an upper threshold based on the target amount for the first ingredient; and

adjusting the target amounts for the ingredients of the recipe based on the scaling factor.

10. The method of claim 3, further comprising:

displaying a bar graph with a bar with a length based on the measured amount of the first ingredient proportional to the target amount for first ingredient.

11. The method of claim 3, further comprising:

displaying an indication for the user to stop adding the first ingredient if the measured amount of the first ingredient exceeds a lower threshold based on the target amount for the first ingredient.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein displaying the indication for the user to stop adding the first ingredient further comprises:

changing a color of a light.

13. The method of claim 4, wherein displaying the build column further comprises:

for each of the one or more recipe blocks that is associated with one or more of the ingredients of the recipe, displaying that recipe block with a size based on a proportion of the target amount for the ingredient associated with that recipe block in relation to a sum of the target amounts of the ingredients of the recipe.

14. A system for assisting a user in assembling a culinary combination according to a recipe, the recipe having one or more ingredients and one or more target amounts for the ingredients, the system comprising:

a scale;

a computing device with an electronic display;

wherein the computing device is configured for communicating with the scale; and

wherein the electronic display is configured for displaying information regarding the ingredients of the recipe, and for displaying a progress of the assembly of the culinary combination.

15. The system of claim 14, wherein the computing device is further configured for:

selecting a first ingredient from the one or more ingredients of the recipe;

displaying a name and the target amount for the first ingredient;

determining an amount added to the scale based on information received from the scale; and

determining a measured amount of the first ingredient based on the amount added to the scale.

16. The system of claim 15, wherein the computing device is further configured for:

displaying a build column comprising one or more recipe blocks, including a first recipe block associated with the first ingredient.

17. The system of claim 16, wherein the computing device is further configured for:

selecting the first recipe block from the one or more recipe blocks as an activated recipe block; and

displaying the activated recipe block in an enhanced manner.

18. The system of claim 17, wherein the computing device is further configured for:

displaying a portion of the activated recipe block in a different manner than a remainder of the activated recipe block, wherein the portion of the activated recipe block displayed differently is proportional to a ratio of the measured amount of the first ingredient compared to the target amount for the first ingredient.

19. The system of claim 14, wherein the computing device has an audio jack and the communications module is configured for communicating with the scale via the audio jack.

20. A computer-readable medium having stored thereon instructions which, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform steps of a method for assisting a user in assembling a culinary combination according to a recipe, the recipe having one or more ingredients and one or more target amounts for the ingredients, the steps comprising:

displaying information regarding the ingredients;

receiving information from a scale;

determining a progress of assembling the culinary combination based on the information from the scale; and

displaying the progress of the assembly of the culinary combination.

21. The computer-readable medium of claim 20, having stored thereon further instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to perform the steps of:

selecting a first ingredient from the one or more ingredients of the recipe;

displaying a name and the target amount for the first ingredient;

determining an amount added to the scale based on information received from the scale; and

determining a measured amount of the first ingredient based on the amount added to the scale.

22. The computer-readable medium of claim 21, having stored thereon further instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to perform the steps of:

displaying a build column comprising one or more recipe blocks, including a first recipe block associated with the first ingredient.

23. The computer-readable medium of claim 22, having stored thereon further instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to perform the steps of:

displaying a portion of the first recipe block in a different manner than a remainder of the first recipe block, wherein the portion of the first recipe block displayed differently is proportional to a ratio of the measured amount of the first ingredient compared to the target amount for the first ingredient.

24. The computer-readable medium of claim 21, having stored thereon further instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to perform the steps of:

changing a scaling factor of the recipe, if the measured amount of the first ingredient exceeds an upper threshold based on the target amount for the first ingredient; and

adjusting the target amounts for the ingredients of the recipe based on the scaling factor.

25. The computer-readable medium of claim 21, having stored thereon further instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to perform the steps of:

displaying an indication for the user to stop adding the first ingredient if the measured amount of the first ingredient exceeds a lower threshold based on the target amount for the first ingredient.

26. The computer-readable medium of claim 21, having stored thereon further instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to perform the steps of:

transferring association, upon user command, of the amount added to the scale from the measured amount of the first ingredient to a measured amount of a second ingredient from the one or more ingredients of the recipe.

27. A device for assisting a user in assembling a culinary combination according to a recipe, the recipe having one or more ingredients and one or more target amounts for the ingredients, the device comprising:

a scale configured for receiving information from a computing device regarding an ingredient of the recipe; and

an electronic display, configured for displaying information identifying the ingredient, the electronic display configured for displaying a progress of an amount of the ingredient added to the scale towards a target amount for the ingredient.

28. The device of claim 27, wherein the electronic display configured for displaying the progress of the amount of the ingredient added to the scale is further configured for:

displaying a bar graph on the electronic display, the bar graph with a bar with a length based on a measured amount of the ingredient proportional to the target amount for the ingredient.

29. The device of claim 27, further comprising:

an indicator configured for signaling the user to stop adding the ingredient.

~~30. The device of claim 29, wherein the indicator configured for signaling the user to~~ stop adding the ingredient is a light ~~configured~~ to change color when the amount ~~added to the scale approaches the target amount.~~