



## Karate Titles for Black Belt Grades

**Senpai** (sehn-pie) 先輩 = Senior Student (highest grade in dojo line-up)

**Shodan** (show-dahn) 初段 = First degree black Belt.

**Nidan** (nee-dahn) 二段 = Second Degree Black Belt.

**Sandan** (san-dahn) 三段 = Third Degree Black Belt.

**Yondan** (yohn-dahn) 四段 = Fourth Degree Black Belt

**Godan** (go-dahn) 五段 = Fifth Degree Black Belt.

**Rokudan** (rohk-oo-dahn) 六段 = Sixth Degree Black Belt.

**Shichidan** (shi-sh-dahn) or **Nanadan** (nah-nah -dahn) 七段 = Seventh Degree Black Belt.

**Hachidan** (hach-ee-dahn) 八段 = Eighth Degree Black Belt

**Kudan** (koo-dahn) 九段 = Ninth Degree Black Belt.

**Judan** (joo-dahn) 十段 = Tenth Degree Black Belt

## Other (Courtesy) Dan Grade Titles

**Joshu-Shoban** (Joh-shoo Sho-ban) 助手初版 = Junior (age 16 and under) first degree black belt.

**Yudansha** (you-dahn-shar) = Black belt student.

**Shidojin** (she-doyn) 指導員 = Assistant instructor.

**Sensei** (sehn-say) 先生 = Teacher (all 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> Dan grades who are teaching a class).

**Renshi** (rehn-she) 錬士 = Senior Teacher (3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Dan).

**Shihan** (she-han) 師範 = Teacher of Teachers (5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> Dan).

**Kancho** (can-cho) or **Kyoshi** (kyoh-she) 教士 = Expert Teacher (8<sup>th</sup> Dan).

**Hanshi** (hahn-she) 範士 = Master Teacher (9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> Dan).

**Shidoshi** (she-doh-she) 指導師 = Director (5<sup>th</sup> Dan and above).