



Belt Colours & Grades

Belt Colours & The Grades They Represent

BELT	COLOUR	AGE GROUP	SENIOR
	White	Junior & senior	9th kyu
	Red	Junior only	n/a
	Yellow	Junior & senior	8th kyu
	Orange	Junior & senior	7th kyu
	Green	Junior & senior	6th kyu
	Blue	Junior & senior	5th kyu
	Purple	Junior & senior	4th kyu
	Brown	Junior only	n/a
	Brown+1 black tab	Junior & senior	3rd kyu
	Brown+2 black tabs	Junior & senior	2nd kyu
	Brown+3 black tabs	Junior & senior	1st kyu
	Black	Junior & senior	Shodan-ho
	Black+1 gold tab	Junior & senior	Shodan

Types Of Grade

GROUP	AGE	TYPE OF GRADE
Junior	6-15 years	Junior grades, eg. junior red belt, junior blue belt etc.
Senior	16 years +	Kyu grades, eg. 6th kyu (green), 4th kyu (purple) etc.
Junior black belts	6-15 years	Junior grades, eg. junior Shodan, junior Nidan etc.
Senior black belts	16 years +	Dan grades, eg. Shodan, Nidan, Sandan etc.

Shodan-ho means 'provisional black belt'. On attaining this grade all ages karate-ka re-grade after approximately one year and attempt their 'black belt proper'.

If successful they are awarded the grade of **Shodan**, this is the 1st Dan black belt that every karate-ka strives to attain.

