



Black Belt Kata Guidelines

These are the minimum time requirements for each Black Belt kata. In addition to the minimum times, each Black Belt must receive permission in advance from Hanshi or his/her Shihan* to begin a new kata. In most cases Hanshi or the Shihan will encourage a Black Belt to wait.

Ik-Kyu	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ May begin learning a weapon kata (optional).● Must learn Naihanchi nidan, Nihanchi sandan, and Ananku to test for Sho-Dan.
Sho-Dan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ May learn Wankan a couple of months after attaining rank.○ May learn Rohai approximately 1-2 years after Wankan.○ May learn Wanshu approximately 1- 2 years after Rohai.● Must demonstrate all kata up to and including Wankan to test for Ni-Dan.
Ni-Dan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ May learn Passai approximately 1 -2 years after Wanshu.● Must demonstrate all kata up to and including Wanshu to test for San-Dan.
San-Dan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ May learn Chinto approximately 2 -3 years after Passai.● Must demonstrate one Fukyugata, Pinan and Naihanchi kata and all Black Belt kata up to and including Passai to test for Yon-Dan.
Yon-Dan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ May learn Gojushiho approximately 3 years after Chinto.● Must demonstrate one Fukyugata, Pinan and Naihanchi kata and all Black Belt kata up to and including Chinto to test for Go-Dan.
Go-Dan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Must demonstrate one Fukyugata, Pinan and Naihanchi kata and all Black Belt kata up to and including Gojushiho to test for Roku-Dan.
Roku-Dan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ May learn Kusanku after receiving permission from Hanshi.● Must demonstrate one Fukyugata, Pinan and Naihanchi kata and all Black Belt kata up to and including Kusanku to test for Shichi-Dan.

* Shihan/Club Directors without a formal Sensei should receive permission from Hanshi or a Kyoshi.
