

Iaido Terminology

Equipment

<i>Gi / dogi</i>	Martial arts shirt/jacket
<i>Hakama-shita</i>	Kimono-style iaido gi
<i>Juban</i>	Undergarments worn under gi
<i>Hakama</i>	Pleated traditional pants
<i>Bokuto</i>	Wooden sword
<i>Iaito</i>	Dull/non-sharpened metal sword
<i>Shinken</i>	Sharp/live sword
<i>Saya</i>	Sword sheath
<i>Tabi</i>	Split-toe socks

Dan Ranks and Titles

<i>Iaidoka</i>	A student of iaido
<i>Kohai</i>	Newer student (than you)
<i>Sempai</i>	Older student (than you)
<i>Mudansha</i>	One without dan rank
<i>Yudansha</i>	One with dan rank
<i>Shidachi</i>	Lit. "receiving sword", receives attack & wins
<i>Uchidachi</i>	Lit. "attacking sword", initiates attack & loses
<i>Shodan</i>	1st dan
<i>Nidan</i>	2nd dan
<i>Sandan</i>	3rd dan
<i>Yondan</i>	4th dan
<i>Godan</i>	5th dan
<i>Rokudan</i>	6th dan
<i>Nanadan</i>	7th dan
<i>Hachidan</i>	8th dan
<i>Kyudan</i>	9th dan
<i>Sensei</i>	Head teacher of dojo
<i>Renshi</i>	Certified Instructor (must be rokudan)
<i>Kyoshi</i>	Certified Sr. Instructor (must be nanadan)
<i>Hanshi</i>	Certified Master Instructor (must be hachidan)
<i>Sensei</i>	Teacher
<i>Soke</i>	Overall Head of a style of iaido

Start/End of class

<i>Shinzen ni rei</i>	Bow to shrine
<i>Sensei (Sempai) ni rei</i>	Bow to sensei (sempai)
<i>Onegaishimasu</i>	Please (teach me)
<i>Mokusou</i>	Meditation
<i>Otagai ni rei</i>	Bow to each other
<i>Domo arigatou gozaimasu</i>	Thank you (for teaching us)

Events

<i>Keiko</i>	Practice (through contemplation & understanding)
<i>Renshuu</i>	Practice (through drilling & repetition)
<i>Taikai</i>	Formal event
<i>Embukai / Embu</i>	Formal demonstration
<i>Shinsa</i>	Dan examinations

Stances & Techniques

<i>Waza</i>	Technique
<i>Kata</i>	Predefined technique
<i>Zanshin</i>	Presence of mind / awareness
<i>Metsuke</i>	Vision / awareness
<i>Nukitsuke</i>	Drawing sword from sheath
<i>Yokogiri</i>	Side cut
<i>Kirioroshi</i>	Downward vertical cut
<i>Kesagiri</i>	Downward diagonal cut
<i>Gyaku kesagiri / Kiriage</i>	Upward diagonal cut
<i>Furi kaburi</i>	Raising sword above head
<i>Sune gakoi</i>	Blocking at the leg (protecting leg)
<i>Sayabiki</i>	Movement of the saya
<i>Sayabanare</i>	Kissaki leaving saya koiguchi
<i>Chiburi</i>	Movement of sword to remove blood
<i>O-chiburi</i>	Circular chiburi
<i>Yoko-chiburi</i>	Short, sideways chiburi
<i>Chinugui</i>	Wiping sword from blade
<i>Noto</i>	Resheathing sword into saya
<i>Hayaosame</i>	Faster version of noto (during Tachiwaza, Oku waza, etc.)
<i>Hane age</i>	Flipping sword up (as in Oroshi)
<i>Gedan-no-kamae</i>	Lit. "lower level posture", sword front, tip towards knee
<i>Jodan-no-kamae</i>	Lit. "upper level posture", sword raised above head
<i>Chudan-no-kamae</i>	Lit. "mid-level posture", sword front, tip at throat height
<i>Hasso-no-kamae</i>	Lit. "8 direction posture", sword held upright at shoulder
<i>Waki-gamae</i>	Lit. "side posture", sword held at hip, tip facing back

Sword parts

<i>Kissaki</i>	Tip of the sword
<i>Boshi</i>	Curved edge at tip of the sword
<i>Monouchi</i>	Top third of the blade (where contact is made when cutting)
<i>Mune</i>	Back of the sword
<i>Hi</i>	Goove
<i>Ha</i>	Cutting edge
<i>Hamon</i>	Pattern along cutting edge
<i>Habaki</i>	Blade collar
<i>Tsuba</i>	Hand guard
<i>Seppa</i>	Spacers on either side of tsuba
<i>Tsuka</i>	Handle

<i>Fuchi</i>	Collar of tsuka (adjacent to tsuba)
<i>Kashira</i>	Pommel of tsuka
<i>Tsuka-ito</i>	Tsuka wrapping (cotton, silk, or leather)
<i>Same</i>	Ray skin wrap (beneath ito)
<i>Menuki</i>	Ornamentation on tsuka (beneath ito)
<i>Mekugi</i>	Peg that keeps the sword in the tsuka
<i>Saya</i>	Scabbard
<i>Sageo</i>	Cord tied to saya
<i>Kurigata</i>	Knob that anchors sageo to saya
<i>Koiguchi</i>	Opening of saya
<i>Kojiri</i>	End of saya

Body parts

<i>Atama</i>	Head
<i>Men</i>	Face
<i>Me</i>	Eyes
<i>Kubi</i>	Neck
<i>Nodo</i>	Throat
<i>Mune</i>	Chest
<i>Kata</i>	Shoulder
<i>Ude</i>	Arm
<i>Kote</i>	Wrist
<i>Te</i>	Hand
<i>Hara</i>	Belly
<i>Koshi</i>	Hip
<i>Hiza</i>	Knee
<i>Ashi</i>	Foot