

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>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

Keiko
Renshuu
Taikai
Embukai / Embu
Shinsa

Practice (through contemplation & understanding)
Practice (through drilling & repetition)
Formal event
Formal demonstration
Dan examinations

Stances & Techniques

Waza
Kata
Zanshin
Metsuke
Nukitsuke
Yokogiri
Kirioroshi
Kesagiri
Gyaku kesagiri / Kiriage
Furi kaburi
Sune gakoi
Sayabiki
Sayabanare
Chiburi
O-chiburi
Yoko-chiburi
Chinugui
Noto
Hayaosame
Hane age
Gedan-no-kamae
Jodan-no-kamae
Chudan-no-kamae
Hasso-no-kamae
Waki-gamae

Technique
Predefined technique
Presence of mind / awareness
Vision / awareness
Drawing sword from sheath
Side cut
Downward vertical cut
Downward diagonal cut
Upward diagonal cut
Raising sword above head
Blocking at the leg (protecting leg)
Movement of the saya
Kissaki leaving saya koiguchi
Movement of sword to remove blood
Circular chiburi
Short, sideways chiburi
Wiping sword from blade
Resheathing sword into saya
Faster version of noto (during Tachiwaza, Oku waza, etc.)
Flipping sword up (as in Oroshi)
Lit. "lower level posture", sword front, tip towards knee
Lit. "upper level posture", sword raised above head
Lit. "mid-level posture", sword front, tip at throat height
Lit. "8 direction posture", sword held upright at shoulder
Lit. "side posture", sword held at hip, tip facing back

Sword parts

Kissaki
Boshi
Monouchi
Mune
Hi
Ha
Hamon
Habaki
Tsuba
Seppa
Tsuka

Tip of the sword
Curved edge at tip of the sword
Top third of the blade (where contact is made when cutting)
Back of the sword
Goove
Cutting edge
Pattern along cutting edge
Blade collar
Hand guard
Spacers on either side of tsuba
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