**Lightsabers Throughout the Galaxy**

Lightsabers are the primary tool of Force wielders in the Star Wars galaxy. They have been the main weapon, dealing swift justice or tyranny for thousands of years. Yet, not all lightsabers are the same. We took a look at some of the most iconic Star Wars characters and their specific type of lightsaber.

It should be noted that the data set examined comes from 11 iconic Star Wars characters chosen at random. Furthermore, these characters, as have many others in the franchise, have historically used more than one lightsaber throughout their lifetimes. A lightsaber user might lose, break, or surrender their saber due to exterior factors.

For example, Ahsoka Tano started off with a single blade, but adopted a shoto (shorter blade) in addition to her main blade. Later on, she surrendered her twin blades when she left the Jedi Order, but eventually adopted two new blades later in life.

The lightsabers discussed in this data set are chosen based on the most common saber associated with that character.

Two main orders of Force wielders and lightsaber users exist in the Star Wars universe: the Jedi Order, and the Sith. Out of the characters selected, **six were in the Jedi Order, while four characters operated as Sith. One outlier character, Kylo Ren, was a member of the Knights of Ren.**

Lightsabers are powered by a single crystal. Traditionally, Jedi use kyber crystals to power their lightsabers. They must go through a ritual challenge in a Jedi temple in order to obtain their kyber crystal and make their lightsaber.

Sith members do not go through this ritual, which is why they often power their lightsabers using synthetic kyber crystals. However, a surprising fact is that, out of the characters reviewed, **only half of the Sith members used synthetic kyber crystals.**

Kylo Ren, once again **an outlier, used a cracker kyber crystal**, which affected his blade type. Ren needed to use a crossguard blade type to prevent his cracker kyber crystal from overheating. **He is the only character of note examined to use this blade type.**

**Seven of the characters used a single blade type lightsaber, which is the most common type.** One character, Darth Maul, wielded a double blade. Two characters wielded two single blades as a pair.

**Only one character in the set, a Sith member, was gifted their lightsabers, roughly 9.09%** of those examined. Typically, wielders outside of the Jedi Order are gifted their lightsabers, as only the Jedi have a ritual for the saber’s construction. Yet, as depicted in the data, **some Sith members seem to prefer to construct their own saber** as well, as opposed to having it be gifted to them or stealing another’s.

One can determine some of the universe’s canon lore based off of the data shown in saber types. Lightsabers are as diverse as their wielders, and the Star Wars universe leaves a lot of room for exploration and creating new types and designs.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1HE5boqH5m5gPvWZKO3J49YbPYFnzq_k4O0OciAPnB3E/edit?usp=sharing>

Source: Wookiepedia