

Judo Ranks and Promotion Time Requirements

Junior Judo Ranks

Rank	Belt Color Identification	Minimum Age	Time Before Next Promotion	Total Time in Judo
Beginner (Novice)	White	5 years old	2 months	0
Junior 1st Degree	Yellow	5 years old	2 months	2 months
Junior 2nd Degree	Yellow plus stripe	6 years old	2 months	4 months
Junior 3rd Degree	Orange	6 years old	2 months	6 months
Junior 4th Degree	Orange plus stripe	7 years old	2 months	8 months
Junior 5th Degree	Green	8 years old	2 months	10 months
Junior 6th Degree	Green plus stripe	8 years old	3 months	1 year
Junior 7th Degree	Blue	9 years old	3 months	1 year 3 months
Junior 8th Degree	Blue plus stripe	10 years old	3 months	1 year 6 months
Junior 9th Degree	Purple	11 years old	3 months	1 year 9 months
Junior 10th Degree	Purple plus stripe	12 years old	3 months	2 years
Junior 11th Degree	Brown	13 years old	3 months	2 years 3 months
Junior 12th Degree	Brown plus stripe	14 years old		2 years 6 months

Senior Judo *Mudansha* Ranks

Rank	Belt Color Identification	Time Before Next Promotion	Total Time in Judo
Beginner (Novice)	White	2 ~ 4 months	0
6th Class – <i>Rokkyu</i>	Yellow	2 ~ 4 months	2 ~ 4 months
5th Class – <i>Gokyu</i>	Orange	4 ~ 8 months	6 ~ 8 months
4th Class – <i>Yonkyu</i>	Green	4 ~ 8 months	8 ~ 16 months
3rd Class – <i>Sankyu</i>	Brown	6 months ~ 1 year	1 ~ 2 years
2nd Class – <i>Nikyu</i>	Brown	6 months ~ 1 year	18 months ~ 3 years
1st Class – <i>Ikkyu</i>	Brown	6 months ~ 1 year	2 ~ 4 years

Senior Judo *Yudansha* Ranks

Rank	Belt Color Identification	Time Before Next Promotion	Total Time in Judo
1st Degree – <i>Shodan</i>	Black	1 ~ 5 years	3 ~ 5 years
2nd Degree – <i>Nidan</i>	Black	2 ~ 5 years	4 ~ 10 years
3rd Degree – <i>Sandan</i>	Black	3 ~ 5 years	6 ~ 15 years
4th Degree – <i>Yodan</i>	Black	3 ~ 5 years	9 ~ 20 years
5th Degree – <i>Godan</i>	Black	3 ~ 5 years	12 ~ 25 years
6th Degree – <i>Rokudan</i>	Red and White	3 ~ 5 years	15 ~ 30 years
7th Degree – <i>Shichidan</i>	Red and White	10 or more years	25 years or more
8th Degree – <i>Hachidan</i>	Red and White		By special appointment
9th Degree – <i>Kudan</i>	Red		By special appointment
10th Degree – <i>Judan</i>	Red		By special appointment