

# 虎

TIGER SPIRIT  
KARATE ACADEMY

# Dojo Kun

(Dojo – Training Hall, Kun – Morals)



Tiger Spirit Karate Academy has 6 Dojo Kun, One at the start of the class, and 5 at the end. Dojo Kun represents the key principles and values of a Karate School.

The Dojo Kun at the start of the class is....

**THROUGH EFFORT I WILL SHOW MYSELF WORTHY OF MY KARATE RANK**

The 5 Dojo Kun at the end of the class are taken from the 5 Shotokan Karate Dojo Kun as follows....

**SEEK PERFECTION OF CHARACTER.**

**BE FAITHFUL TO THE TRUTH.**

**ENDEAVOUR TO EXCELL.**

**RESPECT OTHERS.**

**REFRAIN FROM VIOLENT BEHAVIOUR.**

Below is the Shotokan Dojo Kun as written by the founder of Shotokan Karate, Gichin Funakoshi.

A vertical column of five lines of Japanese calligraphy, written in black ink on a white background. The characters are in a cursive style. To the right of the main column, there is a single vertical character '訓' (Kun) which serves as a title for the text. The five lines of the main text correspond to the five principles listed in the previous blocks.

訓

一人格完成に努む  
一誠意を以て守る  
一努力を精神に盡す  
一礼儀を重んずる  
一凶暴の事を戒む

The scripture is read down the columns from the right column to the left. Note: Each of the 5 Dojo Kun start with the number one (一). This is to symbolise that all Dojo Kun are equally as important.

As Japanese doesn't directly translate into English we have included our translation with several common interpretations so that Funakoshi's message can be better understood.

## **SEEK PERFECTION OF CHARACTER**

Strive for perfection of character  
Strive for the completion of one's character (mature or grow)

## **BE FAITHFUL TO THE TRUTH**

Be faithful  
Be faithful and honest  
Be faithful and sincere  
Defend the paths of truth  
Uphold what is right  
Protect the way/road of the truth

## **ENDEAVOUR TO EXCELL**

Endeavour for effort  
Promote the spirit of effort  
Foster a spirit of effort  
Must endeavour.

## **RESPECT OTHERS**

Honour the principles of etiquette  
Respect the principles of etiquette  
Respect others and the rules of etiquette

## **REFRAIN FROM VIOLENT BEHAVIOUR.**

Guard against impetuous courage  
Suppress boldness of the blood spirit.  
Supress boldness of the bloodthirsty spirit

Further to the 5 Dojo Kun, Funakoshi wrote the 20 guiding principles of Karate.

- 1) Do not forget that karate-do (karate way) begins and ends with *rei* (respect)
- 2) There is no first strike in Karate
- 3) Karate stands on the side of justice
- 4) First know yourself, then know others
- 5) Mentality over technique
- 6) The mind must be set free
- 7) Calamity springs from carelessness
- 8) Karate goes beyond the *Dojo (Training Hall)*
- 9) Karate is a lifelong pursuit
- 10) Apply the way of karate to all things, Therein lies its beauty
- 11) Karate is like boiling water: without heat, it returns to its tepid state
- 12) Do not think of winning, rather think of not losing
- 13) Make adjustments according to your opponent
- 14) The outcome of a battle depends on how one handles emptiness and fullness (Weakness and strength)
- 15) Think of the opponent's hands and feet as swords
- 16) When you step beyond your gate you face a million enemies
- 17) *Kamae (fighting position)* is for beginners; later one stands in *shizentai* (natural stance)
- 18) Perform *kata* exactly; actual combat is another matter
- 19) Do not forget the employment or withdrawal of power, the extension or contraction of the body, the swift or leisurely application of technique
- 20) Be constantly mindful, diligent, and resourceful in your pursuit of the Way