



# THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE BELT COLORS

LEARN & UNDERSTAND THE MEANING OF EACH OF THE BELT COLORS.  
BE ABLE TO EXPLAIN TO A BLACK BELT INSTRUCTOR.

## WHITE BELT

Signifies the beginning of a brand new seed. A White Belt is just beginning to search for knowledge of the art. The student's full potential is unknown.

## YELLOW BELT

Signifies the first rays of sunlight have beamed down on the seed, helping it to grow and sprout. A Yellow Belt is given their first rays of knowledge, allowing them to grow.

## GREEN BELT

Signifies the seed is growing into a tall tree with green leaves. It has begun to provide shade and protection to the seeds below it, and it stretches out its leaves towards the sun to receive nourishment. A Green Belt is reaching out for further knowledge of the art, and using their knowledge to help those below them.

## PURPLE BELT

Signifies the tree is strong and has begun to bear fruit that it uses to nourish others. A Purple Belt now has a more detailed knowledge of the art and way, and uses that knowledge to nurture and care for those below them.

## BLUE BELT

Signifies the sky - that all plants are growing towards; it provides oxygen to all living things as it stretches from horizon to horizon. A Blue Belt's horizons have just expanded greatly, and as they continue to feed the plants below them and expand their knowledge, their full potential becomes apparent.

## RED BELT

Signifies the sun that provides heat and light to the whole earth; however, the sun can be very dangerous. If you get too close you will get burned. There tends to be a vast amount of knowledge and technique, but little control with Red Belts.

## BLACK BELT

Signifies the universe. The possibilities are endless and the expanse of the universe is limitless. There is room for creation and innovation. Another meaning is the darkness inside the seed. Black Belt is not an end, it is a whole new beginning. At this rank you must give back to others what you have been given, and plant new seeds, many of which may take root deep within the art, blossoming and growing in a never-ending process of knowledge, self-discovery and enlightenment. Black Belt means teacher, and a teacher does not actually teach, but merely guides others down the path toward finding themselves.