

VKR Dan/Kyu grading examination general requirements

Table 1: Kyu Grading Requirements (2022)

Grade	Wearing	Exercises to be performed ¹	Assessment Points
6th kyu	Kendogi, Hakama, Tare, Do	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chakuso • Reiho • Ashi-sabaki • Suburi • Demonstrating against Motodachi: Kihon Waza: Men, Kote, Do (Four times each) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chakuso (outfit/appearance)/Reiho - Kiai/Large size and correct strikes - Zanshin
5th kyu	Kendogi, Hakama, Tare, Do	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chakuso • Reiho • Ashi-sabaki • Demonstrating against Motodachi: Kihon-Waza: Men, Kote, Do (Four times each) • Kiri-Kaeshi against Motodachi (once each) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chakuso (outfit/appearance)/Reiho - Kiai/All strikes including Kirikaeshi to be correct and large size - Zanshin
4th kyu	Kendogi, Hakama, full Kendogu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chakuso • Reiho <p>Candidates demonstrating against each other:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kihon-Waza: Men, Kote, Do (Four times each) • Nidan-Waza: Kote-Men, Kote-Do, Men-Do (Twice each) • Kiri-Kaeshi as Kakarite and as Motodachi (once each) • Uchi-Komi Geiko as Kakarite and as Motodachi (once) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chakuso (outfit/appearance)/Reiho/Kiai - Large size strikes - All strikes including Kirikaeshi should be correct and struck from adequate distance - Accuracy of strikes - Zanshin
3rd kyu	Kendogi Hakama, full Kendogu	<p>Stage 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chakuso • Reiho <p>Candidates demonstrating against each other:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kihon-Waza: Men, Kote, Do (Four times each) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chakuso (outfit/appearance)/Reiho/Ki, Ken, Tai, coordination with Fumikomi - Strike with a good posture not losing the body balance - Accuracy of strikes

¹ For 3rd kyu to 1st kyu, Bokuto Ni Yoru Kendo Kihon Waza Keiko Ho is now included as one of the exercise items. AKR Manual of Documents Section 2, Kendo Board, Effective Oct 2021.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nidan-Waza: Kote-Men, Kote-Do, Men-Do (twice each) • Sandan-Waza: Kote-Men-Do (Twice each) • Kiri-kaeshi as Kakarite and as Motodachi (once each) • Uchi-Komi Geiko as Kakarite and as Motodachi (once each) <p>Stage 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bokuto Ni Yoru Kendo Kihonwaza Keikoho(Kihon 1-4) 	<p>- Zanshin</p> <p>- Correct Sahou (procedure) and accuracy in basic elements (Kamae, Maai, Ashisabaki, Kakegoe, posture, strike and Zanshin)</p> <p>- Understanding of Motodachi/Kakarite roles</p> <p>- Accuracy of Taisabaki (body control and coordination)</p>
2nd kyu	Kendogi Hakama, full Kendogu	<p>Stage 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kiri-kaeshi as kakarite and as Motodachi (once each) • Uchi-komi geiko as kakarite and as Motodachi (once each) • Jitsugi (30/40 seconds from Ritsurei, 2 sessions) <p>Stage 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bokuto Ni Yoru Kihonwaza Keikoho(1-6) 	<p>- Chakuso (outfit appearance)/Reiho/Ki, Ken, Tai, coordination with Fumikomi</p> <p>- Strikes satisfying the conditions of Yuuko Datotsu as per Article 12 of International Kendo Federation (FIK) Shiai and Shipan Rules</p> <p>- Correct Sahou (procedure) and accuracy in basic elements (Kamae, Maai, Ashisabaki, Kakegoe, posture, strike and Zanshin)</p> <p>- Understanding of Motodachi/Kakarite roles</p> <p>- Accuracy of Taisabaki (body control and coordination)</p>

1st kyu	Kendogi Hakama, full Kendogu	<p>Stage 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kiri-Kaeshi as Kakarite and as Motodachi (once each) • Uchi-Komi Geiko as Kakarite and as Motodachi (once each) • Jitsugi (30/40 seconds from Ritsurei – standing rei, 2 sessions) <p>Stage 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bokuto Ni Yoru Kihonwaza Keikoho(1-9) 	<p>- Chakuso (outfit appearance)/Reiho/Ki, Ken, Tai, coordination with Fumikomi</p> <p>- Strikes satisfying the conditions of Yuuko Datotsu as per Article 12 of International Kendo Federation (FIK) Shiai and Shipan Rules</p> <p>- Correct Sahou (procedure) and accuracy in basic elements (Kamae, Maai, Ashisabaki, Kakegoe, posture, strike and Zanshin)</p> <p>- Understanding of Motodachi/Kakarite roles.</p> <p>- Accuracy of Taisabaki (body control and coordination)</p>
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Note

- Duration of Uchi-Komigeiko should be at least 20 seconds and no more than 5/6 passes.
- Duration of Jitsugi for 1 kyu and 2 kyu is 30-40 seconds from Ritsurei.
- For the lowest grades such as 6th and 5th kyus, focus more on outfit, reihō and kiai rather than the quality of techniques.
- Assessment points may be similar for 4th and 3rd kyus with relatively better refinement in techniques and body control for 3rd kyu.
- For 2nd and 1st kyus, Jitsugi will be introduced. Accuracy of strikes based on “Yuukodatotsu” condition may need to be assessed.