

# Uniform Patches Meaning

Learn the meanings of our uniform patches and earn the right to purchase and wear them on your uniform.

## The Flags (Gook Gi)

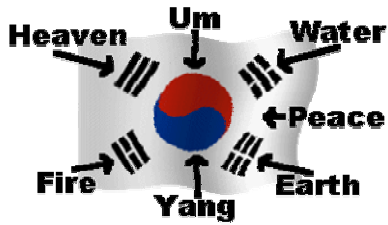
On the walls of your DoJang (studio), you will see 2 flags. The one on the left is the American Flag. On the right is the Korean Flag, to represent the heritage of our martial art. When entering and leaving the DoJang, students should bow towards the flags as a gesture of respect and loyalty to their country, their martial arts organization, and as a gesture of respect towards the country where our martial arts originated. This gesture is very important and should not be taken lightly. Remember respect and loyalty is the core of the martial artist's philosophy.

## The American Flag



Designer: The recognized designer of the Flag was *Francis Hopkinson* a delegate from *New Jersey* to the Continental Congress and also a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Stars and Stripes: The Continental Congress resolved on June 14, 1777, that thirteen United States be *thirteen stripes* alternating red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a field of blue, representing a new constellation. No given star on the Flag corresponds to a specific state. The stars represent the states collectively. Flag Colors: The red, white and blue colors and their arrangement in the flag are often interpreted as expressing the very character of our nation. George Washington described the white of the Flag as symbolizing our desire for liberty in the land of the free. The virgin white stripes represent *purity and serenity* of the nation. In contrast, the white stars represent purity and liberty, and freedom within the nation, which in turn symbolizes the purity, liberty and freedom of each individual American citizen. The crimson red stripes symbolize the *courage and vigilance* of the American citizen who is not afraid to stand up and fight for the peace of the American way of life. That's why there are six white stripes bordered by seven red stripes which says that there cannot be peace and liberty and freedom within this nation without the American citizen willing to make the ultimate sacrifice, in order to preserve the freedom and peace of this great country for future generations. The royal blue field stands for *freedom and justice*. Thomas Jefferson once said that justice is almost one fourth of the things that we as American citizens hold near and dear to our hearts. Without justice we cannot have peace and freedom in our way of life. Therefore, if you measure the flag, the blue field will be almost *one-fourth* of the area of the flag no matter how it is measured. The United States of America's Flag has changed more often than any other nation's flag in the history of the world, 27 times since 1776. To date there are *50 stars* representing the *50 states* of our great nation. We ask that you take the time to think about what it means to be an American and what the Flag means to you.

The Korean National Flag  
"TAE GUK KI"



The Korean flag symbolizes much of the thought, philosophy and mysticism of the Orient. The symbol, and sometimes the flag it self, is called Tae Kuk. Depicted on the flag is a circle divided equally and in perfect balance. The upper (red) section represents the Yang and the lower (blue) section of the UM, an ancient symbol of the universe. These two opposites express the dualism of the cosmos:

fire and water, day and night, dark and light, construction and destruction, masculine and feminine, active and passive, heat and cold, plus and minus, and so on. The central thought in the Tae Kuk indicates that while there is a constant movement within the sphere of infinity, there are also balance and harmony. As a simple example, kindness and cruelty may be taken into consideration. If parents are kind to a child, it is food, but they may spoil and weaken him and thus lead him to become a vicious man and a source of disgrace to his ancestors. This also represents the peaceful people of Korea. Three bars at each corner also carry the ideas of opposition and balance. The three unbroken lines stand for heaven (sky): the opposite three broken lines represent the earth (ground). At the lower left hand corner of the flag are two lines with a broken line between. This symbolizes fire. The opposite is the symbol of water.

The Meaning of our national association logo



Designed in 1967 By Grandmaster Edward B. Sell, This emblem very closely resembles the world's first taekwondo association, the Korea Taekwondo Association in Seoul, Korea. The significance of each color is as follows: **White**-Purity of mind, heart, body, and spirit **Gold**-Represents the master. The U.S. Chung Do Kwan Association was founded by and American master. Also a tribute to our U.S. Chung Do Kwan Masters. **Blue**-Represents freedom. **Red**-Represents the blood that was shed to obtain our freedom. **Black**-Represents Death. A tribute to those who have given their lives for our freedom. The significance of the design is as follows: **Fist**-Represents the universal emblem of Taekwondo and Karate. **Shield**-Represents self-protection. **Two Circles**-Represents the Universe and the circle of life. **Korean writing**-Chung Do Kwan. **Stripe behind the fist**-Represents a Black Belt. **Four Flower Petals**-Grand Master Sell was only a 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Black belt when he organized the U. S. Chung Do Kwan Association. The petals are from the national flower of South Korea.

The meaning of our School logo



Our school logo contains 3 circles that stand for the zones of self defense, the center circle is the Korean version of the Um/Yang symbol, and it represents the central theme of balance in our lives. The second circle symbolizes the punching range, and outer circle symbolizes the kicking range. The triangle that links the 3 circles together represents the angles we use in our martial arts strategy and the fundamental idea of the trinity of martial arts training. The logo wording is arranged so that this idea is carried further reminding us that a complete martial artist must build 3 fundamental principles during his training. **Martial mind, Artist body, and a Spiritual foundation.** Like a fire A warrior must prepare himself in each of these areas to be successful not only in combat but in life.