

FAQ's About Your Kim Studio Uniform

Why are our uniforms white?

There are symbolic and practical reasons why our uniforms are white. Symbolically, white represents purity of mind and spirit. White also represents humility—no decals or sparkles to attract attention. As serious, traditional martial artists, we represent these character traits in everything we do. Practically, white cloth is easier to keep clean and readily shows soil. Cleanliness is important for health and safety.

Why do uniforms snap (pop)?

The cuffs of your uniform snap when made to move and stop very quickly, just like taking a towel and whipping it in the air. The “snapping” sound lets you know you have generated power through speed and proper technique. When hitting a target, the power of your strike passes into the target, so your uniform does not snap in these cases.

How do I make my uniform snap?

Your uniform will snap when a technique is performed correctly and with speed. Speed is a way to generate power, so even our younger students can make their uniforms snap. Think of your uniform as a tool and not just a piece of clothing. It can help you with your practice in many ways.

How can I use my uniform to improve my techniques?

Use your uniform’s seams, “V”, and belt knot to check your body positions. Side seams should be perpendicular from the direction you are facing when in front stance, a side seam should face your partner or target when in fighting stance, and an imaginary line between the “V” formed by your overlapping lapels and your knot indicate your centerline.

How do I keep my uniform white and keep it from shrinking?

Launder your uniform after every class in cold or warm water. The longer you wait to wash your uniform before the next class, the longer stains can set-in. Stain sticks for “whites” are helpful for spot treatments. Read the directions carefully. Do not wash your uniform in hot water, and do not place your uniform in the dryer. Hang your uniform to let it air-dry. Our uniforms are made of 100% cotton and will shrink when subjected to heat.

Sewing A New Kim Studio Patch Onto Your Dobak

- 1) Your patch must be sewn onto your uniform before your first class.
- 2) The patch is sewn onto the left side of the uniform over your heart.
- 3) Wear your dobak in front of a mirror and pin the patch into place (do not place your uniform on a flat surface to pin your patch).

[Continued On Reverse Side]

When do I have to replace my uniform?

Uniforms should be replaced when they begin to restrict movements due to shrinking or growth. Uniforms should also be replaced when they begin to look dingy, are stained from food or drink or soil, or have overall discoloration.

May I wear my uniform outside the studio or to and from the studio?

Uniforms are only to be worn in the studio, during practice, or during studio sanctioned events like demonstrations. Parents may dress young children in their uniforms prior to coming to the studio and at home directly afterwards if this makes the transition to class more manageable for the family. Wearing uniforms to dinner, the movies, parties or play-dates is considered boastful and attracts undue attention. These are not traits Kim Studio wishes to encourage in our students or convey to the community.

Do I have to have flag patches on my uniform?

The United States and South Korean flags are optional patches that can be sewn onto your shoulders. Please ask in the office if you would like to purchase these patches.

How do I know if my uniform fits me correctly?

Your sleeve cuff should brush the base of your hand when your arm is at your side. Pant cuffs should brush the very top of your foot where your foot meets your ankle. Pant cuffs should not be able to catch under your heel.