

## How to Order a Tozando Hakama

Our friend Soichiro Iida of the Kansai Shintaido Club has found a possibly good and reliable source of hakama for Shintaido instructors. Past makers of our hakama have gone out of business or stopped producing the all-cotton white hakama, so we are grateful to Iida-san and Kansai Shintaido for finding this new source, the Tozando company of Kyoto. Tozando is a purveyor of traditional Japanese martial arts supplies, originally founded to serve the international market. They are a relatively new company and their hakama is new to us. Tozando has an English language website that should make it fairly easy to order online.

There is no prescribed Shintaido hakama design. We have worn hakama that were offered to a larger and varied population of martial artists, mostly kendo and iaido practitioners. There may be some discrepancies of detail between the Tozando hakama and older versions made by other suppliers.

**Website:** <https://tozandoshop.com/>

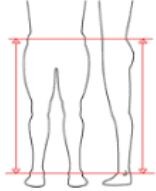

There is a search window you can use to find the “white #7000 cotton kendo hakama”. You can also use this direct link to the product page: <https://tozandoshop.com/collections/kendo-hakama/products/white-7000-cotton-kendo-hakama?variant=34085439864965>

Once there you will have some options to choose from.

**Color:** choose “white” (not “unbleached”)

**Size:** Iida-san instructs that the length of the hakama is determined by the distance measured “between just below the navel and the ankle”. He has provided this size chart, which suggests the likely correlation between the hakama size and height of the wearer.

Comparative Kendo Hakama Size Chart (in centimeter)			
Size	Rec. Height		Hakama Length
	Male	Female	
22	~150	~140	84
23	~155	~145	88
24	~160	~150	92
25	~165	~155	96
26	~170	~160	100
27	~175	~165	103
28	~180	~170	107

\*Due to being hand-made products, the actual length might differ slightly from the size chart.  
\*\*Our Hakama are made with a maximum waist size of 95cm in mind, if your waist is larger than 95cm, your Hakama may need to be custom-made, please contact us for more information. \*\*

The dimensions are in centimeters, so you will have to convert if you don't have a metric measuring tape.\*

## Embroidery:

Traditionally Shintaido hakama only have embroidery on the back, on the *koshi ita* or “koshi board.”

Choose **Koshi-ita Embroidery – yes**

Choose **Koshi-ita Thread Color – golden-yellow (kin-cha)**

Choose **Koshi-ita Layout**

Upon choosing “Koshi-ita Layout” a dropdown menu will offer you the following options, and you should choose your preference of the two **kanji** options:

### Embroidery Fonts

Kanji - Kaisho	東山堂
Kanji - Gyoshotai	東山堂
Katakana	トウザンドウ
Alphabet - Gothic	TOZANDO

## **Koshi-ita Content** – 新体道

For those of us without a kanji typing option, simply cut and paste the Shintaido kanji from here to the “Koshi-ita Content” text field on the website page.

**Add to cart and pay:** Then add this item to your cart and proceed as you would with any other merchandising website. Payment options include PayPal and Google Pay. No credit card option was offered at the writing of this guide.

Please note that the I have not personally ordered a hakama from Tozando, so the instructions of this text have not yet been tested. As those among us begin to acquire the Tozando hakama, please share with me what you learn, and I will revise this text accordingly. Thank you and good luck!

~ Lee Ordeman 3/9/2022

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\* The size numbers are common to hakama, but is uncertain how closely these sizes correlate to the size numbers of older Shintaido hakama. The size chart seems to suggest a larger hakama relative to the height of the wearer than those we are more familiar with. We tend to wear them a little short, perhaps because a shorter hakama makes tripping on it less likely. According to lida-san, Japanese people tend to a lower koshi /shorter legs relative to overall height than people of other origins. The sizing chart may not take this into account. If you are relatively long-legged, you might choose a size up. It is also not clear how much the hakama might shrink when first laundered.

\*\* The size chart above offers a couple of notes at the bottom:

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*Our hakama are made with a maximum waist size of 95 cm in mind. If your waist is larger than 95 cm, your hakama may need to be custom-made. Please contact us for more information.”*