



# Peterson's Martial Arts Mu Sa Kwan Tang Soo Do Federation

## Uniform

The uniform or training suit is properly called *dobok*. Since the *dobok* is what you wear when you practice your *do*, its care and meaning are very important. *Do* translates into “Way of Life” and *bok* translates into “apparel” or “clothing”. Therefore, *dobok* is “Way of Life clothing”, that which you wear when finding The Way.

## HISTORY OF THE UNIFORM

When you train in your *dobok*, there are similarities that can be found between the current *dobok* and the ancient Korean traditional clothing. The style of the uniform we wear, a white uniform with trim around the borders and sleeves (for *dans*), dates back to the ancient warriors of Korea. Today we maintain the white color to show purity, reverence for life, and commitment to avoid bloodshed and violence. The midnight blue represents the belief that, although we have attained a certain level of proficiency, we still have much more to learn.

The uniform is tied due to historical significance. The uniform's left lapel crosses over the right, so that the right hand could get to a concealed weapon in the *dobok*. This practice dates back to the days of the *samurai*, when secret weapons were carried in the *dobok*, as well as those carried around the waist. In addition, the crossed-over lapels were also meant to help the *samurai* with cutting trajectories during their duels. A “figure eight” pattern/symbol ( $\infty$ ), which signifies infinity, is also formed around the neck and back. The uniforms are tied (left over right) in the same way for both male and female students.

## UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

The only markings placed on the *dobok* shall be the Federation patch on left chest, school's patch on left arm, flag patches on the upper arms, instructor patch on the right arm, and printing on the back, of the Federation or the school's individual identity. Any other symbol sign or lettering is not permitted on the *dobok* without permission from the Grand Master.

### Patches and Location

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| ▪ Federation patch (required)                           | Left chest  |
| ▪ Flag patch (optional)                                 | Right upper arm – your country's flag                   |
| ▪ Instructor patch (optional, <i>dans</i> only) present | Right arm, below your country's flag if present         |
| ▪ Flag patch (optional)                                 | Left upper arm – Korean flag                            |
| ▪ Personal crest of <i>dojang</i> (optional)            | Left arm, below Korean flag if it's present             |
| ▪ School patch (if desired) present                     | Left arm, below personal <i>dojang</i> crest if present |



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- Dojang crest (optional) Back of uniform jacket

### Trim and Location

The dobok is not simple training clothing but traditionally has been treated and maintained in special ways as an instrument in achieving the goal of martial arts. Students should be aware of ways of cleaning, caring, and storing of their dobok. The traditional and universal uniform, in the Mu Sa Kwan, is an all white uniform (jacket and pants). This is what will be followed in the Mu Sa Kwan Tang Soo Do, with the following trim by belt colors:

White, Purple, and Green Belts	No trim on uniform
Red Belts	2 inch wide red trim on jacket lapels only
Dan (Black Belts)	2 inch wide navy blue trim on jacket lapels, sleeve cuffs, and all around the bottom border of jackets

### Back

The back can be left blank, when a school patch is displayed on the left upper arm. However, a screened or embroidered design, representing the Federation or the school's individual identity, can be added, in place of the school patch.

### Uniforms For Class

The traditional uniform (white, cross over, tied dobok) will be used. Uniforms of other colors can be worn with the permission of the Head Instructor.

### Uniforms For Testing

The traditional uniform (white, cross over, tied dobok), with Federation patch, will be used.

### Uniforms For Tournaments

The traditional uniform (white, cross over, tied dobok), with the school logo/insignias and a Federation patch on the left chest, will be used. This is the uniform that represents the student's school.

## CARE OF THE UNIFORM

The following lists the care that should be taken with your uniform:



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- The uniform is to be washed and pressed before each class
- The uniform is to be washed in warm water - do not use bleach and try to line-dry
- Do not wash the belt - this is so that the spirit of effort put into it remains
- The uniform is to be kept in good repair at all times
- The uniform may be brought to the dojang on a hanger, but must be folded properly after each class and transported in a proper equipment bag
- Do not leave any part of your uniform behind when you leave the dojang
- The uniform is not to be worn to and from the dojang
- The uniform is not to be worn for anything other than martial arts training (or official demonstrations)