

Assemble/Disassemble Procedures

How to Disassemble the Sword:

Caution: The blade of this sword is extremely sharp and may cause serious injury. Make sure that the blade edge is never in a position where it could injure yourself or others. If you need to handle the blade, be extremely careful and wear protective gloves.

1. Use the *mekugi-nuki* (brass hammer) to remove the *mekugi* (peg) from the handle. Since the peg is tapered, make sure you examine carefully to determine which direction to push the peg out. (Note: You might need to use a rubber mallet to hammer out the *mekugi*.)

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2. Once you removed both bamboo pegs, grasp the handle with the left hand and hold the sword in an upright position. Make sure to keep the cutting edge away from the body. Then use your right hand to hit your left wrist lightly to loosen the hilt. Be careful not to hit the left wrist too hard with the right hand as there is a danger that blades with short tangs might bounce out of the hilt entirely.

使手腕, 断



Note: You might need to use a rubber mallet and tap lightly on the *tsuba* if the handle is siezed to the tang. Be sure to wrap the *tsuba* with a cloth towel to protect it.



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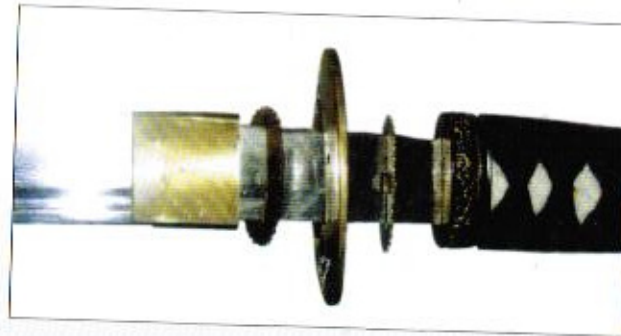
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1. With the bare blade, slide the *habaki* (blade collar) onto the tang until it fits tightly against the mune-machi and ha-machi notches.



2. Next, slide the *seppa* (washer), then *tsuba* (guard), then the second *seppa* (washer), and finally the *tsuka* (handle) onto the tang.



3. Grasp the handle with the left hand and hold the sword in an upright position. Make sure to keep the cutting edge away from the body. Tap the end of the handle upward with your right palm until it is firmly tightened together.

Note: You might need to use a rubber mallet to ensure a tight fit. Be sure to wrap the handle with a cloth towel to protect the *kashira*. 押 柄



4. Insert the 2 *mekugi* (pegs) to secure the *tsuka* to the blade.

刃 柄