

FREE KATANA: THE SWORD OF THE SAMURAI PDF



Stephen Turnbull, Johnny Shumate | 80 pages | 23 Nov 2010 | Bloomsbury Publishing PLC | 9781849081511 | English | Oxford, England, United Kingdom

Daishō - Wikipedia

In pre-industrial Japan, the sword was not just a weapon but the soul of the Samurai. For this reason, a huge part of Japanese culture is based on the Samurai and their katana swords. The only people allowed to wear a sword in ancient Japan were the Samurai. The swords symbolized personal honor and social position of the Samurai in the society. The Bushido was associated with several values such as courage, integrity, loyalty, compassion and respect. In addition, Bushido highlighted the value of living and dying in honor.

Each Japanese soldier had a collection of swords in his possession. A katana long sword and wakizashi short sword made up a Daisho set. These Samurai swords were treated with great reverence. The wakizashi was considered as an emergency weapon which was to be carried everywhere the Samurai went.

Although a Samurai was required to leave all his weapons outside the house, he had to carry his wakizashi in the house and keep it under the pillow. This small sword was used during emergencies, in close quarter combat or for ritual suicide. The warriors mainly used the katana swords during battles.

The Samurai sword dates back to over years ago. However, the most significant historical periods of the Samurai sword are divided into 4 phases: Koto preShintoGendai end of World War II and the modern period known as Shinsaku.

The first katana blade was a straight doubled-edged iron sword which was adapted from the Chinese. However, at the end of the 10th century, the Japanese cut cultural ties with the Chinese and they stabilized to form their own class divisions in the society.

As a result, the military warriors who were guarding the society became the first Samurais. Amakuni was a sword-smith who Katana: The Sword of the Samurai improved the design of the katana. There was a huge demand for weapons and armor from local and national Japanese leaders. The weapons were used to invade China and Korea and to defend Japan from Chinese and Korean invasion. Leaders with a large supply of weapons were considered superior.

Consequently, there was a large number of smiths who worked tirelessly to meet the demand for weapons. Amakuni and his son sought intervention from the Shinto gods who inspired the smiths to create a single-edged slightly curved sword. These two periods are considered as the most important periods of Samurai sword history.

Though Katana: The Sword of the Samurai exact time frames for these periods is debated the period from to was known as the Kamakura while the period from to was referred to as the Muromachi period.

During these periods, there were many invasions in Japan. As a result, there was need for an effective sword to fend off invaders successfully. During battle the Japanese warriors found that it was very difficult to draw a straight sword from the scabbard sword case while fighting on a horseback. Consequently, during the Muromachi period, smiths developed the curved Katana: The Sword of the Samurai sword which was more functional during horseback fighting.

Because of the design and effective cutting angles, a Samurai could easily draw their sword from the scabbard and slash their opponents in a single swing. After the Muromachi period, there were fewer wars and invasions in Japan. This reduced the demand for katana swords. More superior weapons like the gun were also introduced forcing the sword smiths to abandon their craft. This had a negative effect on sword craftsmanship because the skills of the earlier smiths were not passed to new generations.

However, Katana: The Sword of the Samurai katana sword rose to popularity again when the great emperor Shogun Hideyoshi allowed the privileged Samurai class to carry the katana. Later, there was years of peace and the katana sword became a fine piece of art representing a long and rich Katana: The Sword of the Samurai. The katana blades made at that time were mainly used for decorative purposes.

This dark period forced the few remaining smiths to close their businesses. The katana sword is still respected today although it is rare to find a sword smith who can make a Samurai sword with the passion, meaning, art and spirit exhibited by the earlier sword smiths.

These swords are mainly used to balance the unarmed nature of this martial art. There are numerous Kenjutsu masters who believe that the art of Jujitsu was a back-up plan for warriors when their swords got lost or damaged in the battle field. This martial art initially focused on Katana: The Sword of the Samurai the opponent without using any weapon. However, modern day martial artists often try to gain skills in both fighting styles. The Samurai sword still carries a strong historical and ceremonial importance in Japan just like the famous Jujitsu style of fighting in modern day entertainment such as Mixed Martial Arts MMA fighting.

A Daisho set with a Tanto blade included at the very bottom. History of the Samurai Sword The Samurai sword dates back to over years ago. The Legend of Amakuni There was a huge demand for weapons and armor from local and national Japanese leaders. The Kamakura and Muromachi Periods These two periods are considered as the most important periods of Katana: The Sword of the Samurai sword history.

Current Day Katanas The katana sword is still respected today although it is rare to find a sword smith who can make a Samurai sword with the passion, meaning, art and spirit exhibited by the earlier sword smiths. Under Federal Regulation, the Federal Trade Commission requires that disclosures on any relationship which provide any compensation at any time.

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Katana: The Sword of the Samurai — TOKI

So you wanna be like a samurai. What would a true samurai be without his sword, right? Katana: The Sword of the Samurai samurai needs a

quality blade with a unique design to qualify to be part of the highly-ranked army. A search might seem frustrating because you just might end up getting a toy instead of a real sword. Fortunately for you, we love all things samurai and would gladly go through all that trouble to find battle-ready samurai swords that are easy on the pocket. After hours of slicing and dicing, we finally found 8 best samurai swords for you to choose from.

This is a battle-ready katana is made out of high carbon steel with a full-tang blade. The tsuba is not present and the saya is just wood. For some, it has an attractive simplicity.

The wood is lacquered but seems to scratch easily. You do get a cotton bag for the entire sword which protects the wood. The katana is lightweight, well-balanced, and sharp out of the box. Katana: The Sword of the Samurai not razor-sharp, mind you. The Hamon blade pattern however, Katana: The Sword of the Samurai probably fake at this price. View Price and Deals 2. The blade is 28 inches long and 7mm thick.

This is a full tang tachi which preceded the katana but quite similar. The silk-wrapped tsuka is It also features a tri-polished mirror finish and engraved with Japanese horimono. It is well balanced and the grip is excellent. It comes out of the box sharp and can be sharpened even further to become razor sharp. Katana: The Sword of the Samurai tsuba guard and the saya sheath seem to be of less quality compared to the blade. View Price and Deals 3. One of the best features of the Snake Eye 3-piece set is the handy hardwood scabbard.

It is not just tough but also highly durable. Katana: The Sword of the Samurai comes with a two-tone dragon design finish, which is beautiful enough even you a Samurai.

It is a complete set of three swords measuring 21 inches, 31 inches, and 40 inches. Even though they are meant for display, all of the sword blades are made from high-quality stainless steel. So as to make it easy for you to display them, the swords come with a free sword stand.

View Price and Deals 4. It is for that reason that you may want to buy the best classic handmade samurai sword. Yet it is available at a fairly affordable price compared to the other products on offer.

Overall, the sword is 40 inches in length. It comes complete with a wood scabbard, which protects you from possible cuts from the razor-sharp blade. The sword stand is made of three pieces and is 6. With this sword, you have the freedom to choose the type of handle you want. It is easy to remove and put back into the scabbard.

View Price and Deals 5. Made out of high carbon steel the blade is full tang and 28 inches long. The length of the katana is The saya is natural wood with a high gloss finish. This works great for practicing kata laidoor Kenjutsu. The blade fits exceptionally well into the sayano rattle there. One thing to take note of is that the gloss on the tsuka and saya makes it a bit slippery so be careful when drawing the sword.

View Price and Deals 6. This is a Wakizashia shorter sword used by the samurai for close-quarter fighting or for seppuku. The full tang blade is made out of carbon steel with a double ring tsuba which looks awesome. The tsuka is around 9. But it does feel good in your hand with a nice grip. The ito and sageo are tightly done.

The menuki and the tsuba look really nice. The blade is decently sharp but not razor sharp. The Hamon like with swords at this price range, is fake. View Price and Deals 7. The full tang blade has a hardness of 60 and a length of 29 inches. The tsuka is The tsuba also features a dragon design and is made out of high-quality alloy. Also, the blade is very durable and can withstand cutting practices, just not hard contact training. The sword fits tightly inside the sayano rattling heard.

Again, not razor sharp but sharp enough out of the box. View Price and Deals 8. The saya is a white piano lacquered wood and features black Japanese cotton Sageo ; the contrast is beautiful. The wooden tsuka is The kashira pommel features a crane as well.

Because this is steel, it is great for light cutting tatami or fresh bamboo but not for hard Katana: The Sword of the Samurai training. The sword is perfectly balanced and feels secure in your hand. There also is no blade wiggle or rattle. Also, some users have reported a chip in their blade. The term samurai sword is actually a misnomer.

What most people associate with is the katana which was first referenced as such during the Kamakura Period. This guide is our attempt to help you sort through the duds to find the blade worthy of your skill or soon-to-be skill. Probably the most important factor to consider when buying a katana or any blade for that matter is the material used to forge the blade.

Brittle compared Katana: The Sword of the Samurai other types of steel tend not to be very durable thus not for practical application.

Swords made out of this material will look great but are generally not balanced so it would be dangerous to wield this sword. Only for those who wish to hang the sword on the wall. Extra strong with excellent edge retention holds a sharper edge for a longer period of time but susceptible to rust. The most affordable option for high carbon steel katanas. These have a 0. A sword made from this material needs to be well-tempered in order to be strong.

This metal grade balances Katana: The Sword of the Samurai and hardness really well. What that means is that it retains its edge really well and is very durable. But it is more difficult to use when creating a blade so swords using this material usually cost more. Very hard but can hold a keener edge. What this means that it is more brittle compared to other carbon steel blades so it might break when you hit a hard target like a wooden stand but it does have better edge retention.

What this means is that it can produce an incredibly tough and durable sword. Also known as Tamahagane which is the traditional method utilized by the Japanese in forging katanas. These are usually very expensive due to the time and skill involved in making swords this way. It is not proper to try and sharpen your Samurai sword. If you insist on doing it, you may end up damaging it. In Japanese tradition, sharpening a sword went hand

in hand with polishing.

At the end of the process, a sword Katana: The Sword of the Samurai not just be sharp but its quality would be wholly maintained. So, leave the sharpening and polishing to the professionals. Not all katanas are of the same length. And longer is not always better when it comes to choosing the right katana for you. It all depends on your size and your skill.

A katana that is too long for your size may feel unwieldy or unbalanced. Also, if you misjudge your distance from your sparring partner, a long katana has a higher risk of causing harm. That is if you have one.

An easy way to measure the tsuka is to place your hand flat side by side on the table with the sides touching and fingers closed. Measure the combined width then add a good Katana: The Sword of the Samurai to 4 inches to that length.

History of the Samurai Sword

Welcome to Swords of the East. We are one of the worlds largest and most comprehensive online retailers of Samurai swords and other martial arts weapons and accessories. We Katana: The Sword of the Samurai a complete selection of katana that are suitable for collectors, martial arts practitioners and also those looking for a beautifully crafted unique gift.

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and I love your sword man!

I'll be in touch soon to order more. That was a much faster response than I have gotten from other sites. That's great Rick I appreciate your help and patience with me.

Regards," J Barnhorn "The check and order are in the mail. Attached is a copy of the letter that accompanies the order. Thank you again for your great service! Pope "Thanks just placed the order.

Once I receive the sword I'm going to post a review on sword forum Take care," D.