

## My Journey to Black Belt

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I started Taekwondo when I was 6 years old. I have been doing Taekwondo for almost 3 years now. I started because I wanted to try it. I started out as a Little Dragon, and as time went on and I got older, I joined the children's level. When I first started Taekwondo, I was unsure if I was going to like it. It seemed hard because I was not used to doing it and it was very challenging. I was discouraged after the second class but I kept trying it because I thought it would get better. As time went on and I kept going to class, I kept getting better. Once I started getting better and I saw that I was able to learn the forms and the other moves, I felt more confident. Having more confidence, made me really like going to Taekwondo. I worked very hard to earn each belt level, and each time I earned a new belt I felt excited and proud of myself. Each belt got a little bit harder. The forms, the self-defense moves and the breaking techniques were getting harder, but I earned my stickers and kept improving. Master Shawn, Grand Master Jung and all the masters made class nice and fun. Also my amazing mommy kept my spirits high.

My goal was to earn my Black Belt. I was very excited when I earned my Deputy Black Belt because I knew I was getting closer to hopefully earning my Black Belt. When I started my Black Belt prep classes, I really didn't like it and wanted to quit. I didn't like how serious it was. It wasn't fun going to class anymore. I had to get used to that. My mom helped me to understand that. I found the Black Belt prep classes much harder and didn't feel confident at first. As time went by, I practiced at home and was starting to feel better about going to my classes. Now that the test is only a week away, and I have been working very hard in class and at home, I feel very confident that I can do my forms, my self-defense moves and the breaking techniques. I am ready for my Black Belt test, and hope that I can prove myself to the Masters that I earned my Black Belt. If I earn my Black Belt, I would like to continue to earn my Second Degree Black Belt.

Also, over the past 3 years I have become a lot more disciplined and controlled. It has felt great and it is also good for school behavior. I have learned to be respectful and show integrity to other people.

I want to thank Master Shawn for his patience and for not giving up on us. He worked very hard to try to get us to our Black Belt.

This has been my journey to my Black Belt.