

# Zanpakuto

A **Zanpakuto**(*Soul-Cutter Sword*; Viz "Soul Slayer") is the main weapon of the Shinigami, the Arrancar, and the Visored. The Shinigami art of wielding a Zanpakutō is called **Zanjutsu** (*swordsmanship*).

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## Overview

The Zanpakuto of low-ranking Shinigami are called *Asauchi* and do not have names, but the Zanpakuto of high-ranking Shinigami do have names. In its sealed state, a Zanpakuto has the form of a Japanese sword. Such weapons are unique swords generated from their owner's souls. Its shape differs depending on its owner.

*"You've used your Zanpakutō as tools? Treated them like subordinates? Relied on them like partners? As family? As friends? Role models? Students? Pets? Acquaintances? Sweethearts? Lovers? [...] You're looking at things completely the wrong way. Which is superior, the Zanpakutō or the Shinigami? Let's think about that to start with, yeah?!"*

— Oetsu Nimaiya in "THE BATTLE"

## Zanpakuto Facts

- All Asauchi are forged solely by Ōetsu Nimaiya. Since the birth of Soul Society itself, there has never been a Shinigami who awakened his or her own Zanpakutō without wielding an Asauchi which Nimaiya forged.
  - Being the creator of every Asauchi, Nimaiya knows the exact location of every Zanpakutō in existence, no matter who the wielder is or how the blade is attained.
- Because they are part of their owner's soul, a Zanpakutō cannot be replaced, though it will slowly regenerate if it is broken.
  - The only thing which can heal a broken Zanpakutō is its own wielder's force of will, Reiatsu, and the time required to infuse the Zanpakutō with this Reiatsu. This only relates to one's Shikai, and can only be done if the hilt of the Zanpakutō remains intact. The destruction of a Shikai and the destruction of a Bankai hold quite different meanings, for a destroyed Bankai can never be restored to its original form.
- The size of the Zanpakutō reflects the amount of the swordsman's spiritual power. Exceptions to this rule are beings of immense power, who are required to actively control the size of their Zanpakutō.
- Every Zanpakutō has its own name, which the wielder must learn.

## Including Code blocks

Let us pretend, zanpakutos have some fancy codes associated with them so that we learn how to present code snippets in Markdown in the original code formatting. These are helpful when we are explaining pieces of codes to someone for illustration purposes.

```
if x==1:
    print("This is a shikai!")
elif x==2:
    print("This is a bankai!")
else:
    print("This is just a normal sword :/ ")
```

## Forms

Look, a photo of a Zanpakuto!



The table below gives the details of different forms of a Zanpakuto.

Variation	Style	Size
Katana	standard	24 in
Wakizashi	companion	20 in
Nodachi	heavy	70 in
Tanto	dagger	12 in

## Reference

All text for this is adapted from <https://bleach.fandom.com/wiki/Zanpakut%C5%8D>