

DOKUSAN

Interview Procedure

When the teacher rings the bell, leave zendo and go to the Dokusan room. Wait outside the door until a person in dokusan comes out. Gassho together, facing the opened room. (Person leaving closes the door.) With hands in gassho, enter to the left of the partition. Turn slightly to your left, do a standing bow (gassho) to the altar. Hands still in gassho, move right to the zabuton (black square cushion) directly in front of the teacher, and do one full prostration. Remain on knees and slide slightly forward, closer towards the teacher. Use the zafu (round pillows) on the right shelf if you wish. When dokusan is over, gassho, get up, and do one full prostration. (The teacher will then ring the bell for the next person as you prostrate.) With hands still in gassho, leave to the right of the partition, backing out: open, then close door. Wait outside facing the closed door. Open the door when the next person arrives. Both gassho together facing the dokusan room. (Person leaving closes the door.)

