Phases Students go Through

6-9 Months: During the first six to nine months most students try or want to try the techniques out in an actual street situation. In fact, many students will quit after attending the studio for six to nine months. If a student stays with it for the first full year, they usually make it to black belt.

1 Year +: During your journey to black belt you will experience slump periods when you feel like you are not getting any better. These slump periods usually come to an end with a sudden realization. You will receive enlightenment, something will trigger new understanding of the techniques you are studying and you will find yourself with more motivation than you had before. It is important not to get discouraged during the slump periods. With practice and perfection of technique you will achieve the knowledge needed to move on. The most important thing I can tell you if you are getting bored or having trouble with your techniques is to attend class more often. After years of training, you become a Master; you don't care about fighting any more. Hapkido is just part of your life. You can relax, enjoy life and teach others. Masters of Hapkido have a strong desire for peace, even though they have developed skills of brutal force that appear to be violent. People respect you for this and want to learn from you.

