
RAINING CLAW

FRONT | RIGHT HAND | UPPERCUT

Name:

"Claw" is a method of execution utilizing the fingers. In this particular technique the fingers are used in an overhead fashion, resembling the raining of fingers as they claw your opponent's face, thus the name Raining Claw.

Attack:

The IDEAL PHASE of this technique begins with your opponent located to the front. Starting from a left fighting stance, he steps forward as he delivers a right uppercut punch toward your midsection.

Theme:

The theme of this technique introduces the use of an overhead strike that is coupled with Object Obscurity to conceal an underhand strike.

Movement:

1. While standing naturally, step back toward 6:00 with your left foot into a right neutral bow (facing 12:00), and deliver a **right inward-downward horizontal forearm block to the forearm of your opponent's right uppercut**. Your left hand is guarding high to protect your upper body.
2. Shuffle forward (pushdrag), and immediately execute a **left inward overhead claw to your opponent's face** while your right elbow stays close to your body. (This strike may bring your opponent's head forward and down.)
3. Have your right fist circle clockwise, and execute a **right vertical back knuckle thrust to your opponent's face** (apply OBJECT OBSCURITY by tracking your right punch up and along your left wrist, releasing your claw just before your right punch arrives). Your left hand now checks low. (This action should snap your opponent's head back and away.)
4. Right front crossover, and **cover out toward 7:30**.

What If:

- Your opponent does not step through with his right foot.
- Your opponent precedes his uppercut with a left jab.
- Your back is to a wall.
- Your opponent precedes his punch with a left roundhouse kick.

Technique Notes:

Build spontaneity by having your opponent vary his punches: right straight, right uppercut, or right roundhouse. Respond to these attacks with sequences from either Five Swords or Raining Claw. This method of practice will internalize the concept that these two techniques can be compatibly Formulated.

Again apply the general rule, "when striking high, check low and when striking low, check high".

When sparring, become more familiar with counters to uppercut punches.

Notice the similarities between Raining Claw and Deflecting Hammer.

To clarify Object Obscurity we have again extracted the term from the ENCYCLOPEDIA OF KENPO.

OBJECT OBSCURITY The use of one body limb to hide the action of another. For example, after a right two finger hook is applied to the left eye of your opponent, your left hand can then use your right forearm as a track to zero in on the same target. Not until the left two finger poke is almost on target do you retract your right arm. The last minute replacement of weapons makes the second action obscure. This concept parallels the principle of TRACKING and is classified as being a method of CONTOURING.