Scuba / Snorkeling Mask User Guide

Regardless of how long you have been diving, this mask works differently than any other mask you have used. We want you to fully enjoy the best possible underwater vision, and you need to learn a few new guidelines. Please read ALL of the following guidelines before using your new mask.

⚠️ WARNING! PREVENT FUZZY VISION UNDERWATER:

Failure to confirm your ability to use this mask and accessories may result in eyestrain, headache, or short-duration inability to focus. Before you go diving with your MEGA 4.5DD mask, you should first become familiar with the mask’s characteristics in a swimming pool or other confined water. If your above-water vision Rx is not in the naked-eye range (see enclosed chart), you will probably have to wear contact lenses to use the mask. If you do not know your vision Rx, you can perform the enclosed “Naked-Eye User Test.” If you need to wear contact lenses to use the mask and do not have a current contact lens prescription, visit a participating HydroOptix DEC-Pro (Diving Eye Care Professional), or your Eye Care Professional. A fitting guide for your Eye Care Professional is available on our website.

General Use, Care & Cleaning

The MEGA mask lens is made of optical polycarbonate. It is hard-coated to resist scratches, but it is not scratch-proof. DO NOT CLEAN THE LENS WITH ANY SOLVENTS.

NanoFOG™

LENSE COATING PREVENTS FOGGING ⚠️ DO NOT SCRUB ⚠️

DO NOT SCRUB THIS LENS PRIOR TO USE. No prior treatment is necessary, just go diving. At the factory this lens is Hard Coated on the outside to resist scratches, and NanoFOG coated on the inside. When tiny beads of moisture (fog) land on the inner lens surface, they are absorbed into the NanoFOG coating. The NanoFOG coating becomes soft in water – handle carefully.

- After diving, rinse briefly with FRESH water. DO NOT keep submerged in fresh water for more than a few minutes. Salt crystals & sand rubbed inside of the lens will damage the soft NanoFOG coating.
- To dry: prevent water puddles at the bottom of each dome by placing the mask silicone skirt down (nose up).
- To clean: suntan lotions and body oils reduce the anti-fog properties. Clean the NanoFOG coating with McNett SeaGold Anti-Fog Gel. Use gentle finger pressure to rub the gel into the NanoFOG surface while adding a little water to reduce friction; rinse.

CLEARING WATER:

HydroOptix masks are equipped with exclusive patented Twin-Turbo™ purge valves. Without these purge valves, small amounts of water would puddle in your central field-of-view. The purge drain slots are in the lowest possible point of the mask, ensuring the driest possible dive.

To clear, position your head upright, and then gently blow air from your nose to increase air pressure within the mask. Excessive exhale pressure will break the seal across your upper lip and air will escape below your nose, rather than pushing water out from the purge chambers. Some divers hold the nose pocket to stabilize the upper-lip seal while exhaling. Tilt your head so each side is alternately higher in the water column to vent the last drop.

⚠️ WARNING! PREVENT MASK SQUEEZING:

Pressure increases when descending into water. Just after you equalize or “clear” your ears, you should also equalize your mask to avoid “mask squeeze”. The HydroOptix MEGA mask is a relatively large volume mask and uses purge valves so clearing might take a bit of conscious effort during the first few uses. If you use the Valsalva maneuver to clear your ears (pinching your nose and blowing gently) then follow this process by gently pulling the nose-pocket away from but not off of your face, as you slowly add air to the mask through your nose.
Optical Quality

Your new HydroOptix MEGA 4.5DD series dive mask has been manufactured with the highest regard for quality and workmanship. We apply an anti-abrasive hard-coating, similar to that used on automotive headlamps, to both the water-side and face-side of the Double-Dome lens. The water-side coating is applied thick, to maximize protection. You may notice this coating while looking through the mask in air, which can cause slight aberrations around the lens’ perimeter. This aberration will not affect your underwater vision and is invisible under water, since the refractive index of the hard-coating closely matches the refractive index of sea water.

Safe Usage

⚠️ WARNING!

Never use this mask as a substitute for appropriate above-water safety eyewear. The MEGA 4.5DD lens exceeds the impact test requirements set by the American National Standard Institute, Z86.11-1985. Impact resistant lenses can break or shatter and cause injury to the user if subjected to undue force or impact.

⚠️ WARNING! DO NOT DIVE HEAD FIRST WITH ANY DIVING MASK INTO WATER.

Safe Hygiene and Use of Contact Lenses

If you are a diver who requires contact lenses in order to use the MEGA mask, please carefully read this entire section. You should never put your precious sight at risk.

⚠️ WARNING! DO NOT WEAR CONTACTS WITHOUT A PRESCRIPTION!

A contact lens is a prescription device and it must only be fit and prescribed by a licensed Eye Care Professional. Although all eyes look pretty much the same, in reality everybody’s eyes have a slightly different shape and size. Obtaining contact lenses without a prescription could lead to serious vision problems due to incorrect fit. Take good care of your eyes with an eye exam every two years to detect vision changes, as well as any other unseen problems. If you regularly wear contact lenses you should see your Eye Care Professional every year. You will find that HydroOptix DEC-Pros are exceptional Ophthalmologists, Optometrists and Opticians, and they understand your special needs as a scuba diver.

⚠️ WARNING! NEVER USE CONTACT LENSES WHILE DIVING IF:

1. If you have an impaired immune system (e.g. fever, etc.).

OR

2. If you have very red eyes, this could be a symptom of an existing eye infection or corneal damage. You should stop diving and immediately consult an Eye Care Professional to prevent harmful effects of infection from water-borne bacteria.

⚠️ WARNING! NEVER SHARE CONTACT LENSES!

If a contact lens has already been worn by another, DO NOT re-use that lens. This can spread disease, even if the lenses have been disinfected with heat or chemical disinfectant!
Safe Diving and Snorkeling with Contact Lenses

• When wearing contact lenses with HydroOptix Double-Dome masks, be aware that your vision will be impaired while above water – your balance and depth-perception may be affected.

• We recommend that you give yourself time to get used to wearing the contact lenses before you go diving. We suggest two hours per day for two days.

⚠️ WARNING!

• Do not drive an automobile or operate heavy machinery while wearing your Dive Rx contact lenses.

• When finished diving for the day, remove the Dive Rx contacts immediately and discard them (if one-day disposables) or store them (if multi-day lenses) in disinfectant solution, according to the procedures shown you by your DEC-Pro or Eye Care Professional. Never leave contact lenses in your eyes overnight after swimming.

• Carefully follow the hygiene protocols shown you by your DEC-Pro or Eye Care Professional. Clean your hands before handling contact lenses. On a scuba boat environment, we recommend alcohol-based hand disinfecting cleaners (e.g. Purell®). After using hand disinfectant, be sure to avoid stinging your eyes by first RINSING off the disinfectant with sterilized saline solution before touching contact lenses or your eyes.

Above-Water Vision

Be aware that the MEGA Double-Dome mask behaves like a prescription mask only when submerged. Immediately upon surfacing you should use either the CoverLens or Monocle accessory for in-focus vision. A custom Rx is available for the CoverLens accessory, which can exactly match your sphere (SPH) and cylinder (CYL) Rx. Also you may need to wear Surface-Interval Eyewear while waiting between dives if you wear Diving Rx contacts. For more information, click to www.HydroOptix.com.
Warranty

WARRANTY PERIODS:
HydroOptix provides a One-Year Warranty from the date of purchase against defects in materials or workmanship on the MEGA mask. HydroOptix further provides a 90-Day Warranty from the date of purchase against defects in materials or workmanship on the accessory CoverLens components, the accessory Surface-Interval Eyewear and the monocle. All products are subject to the “WARRANTY TERMS” as defined below.

WARRANTY TERMS:
Care is taken to ensure that each HydroOptix product is of the best quality possible. Under normal use, any defect will be repaired at no cost to you for parts and labor, during the time periods as specified in “WARRANTY PERIODS” above.

Damages to the product(s) caused by actions contradictory to the provided instructions (e.g. cleaning with unapproved cleaning solvents) voids the warranty, as does diving in and/or exposure to severely polluted waters. HydroOptix is not responsible for damages or injuries due to the incorrect use of the product.

The warranty does not include minor imperfections, surface markings as a result of shipping, or slight color variations. Product failure, damage or loss due to extended exposure to sun or high temperatures, neglect, accident, fire, theft, unauthorized alterations or tampering, misuse, lack of reasonable care or normal wear-and-tear are not included in the warranty terms.

Although the mask lens and the CoverLens have a hard coat for protection against abrasions, scratches to the mask, the CoverLens, the Surface-Interval Eyewear or the monocle optical surface(s) are not covered by this warranty. Damages to the NanoFOG anti-fog coating are not covered under warranty. Possible corrosion to metal parts of the Surfaced-Interval Eyewear and clip-on sunglasses are not covered by this warranty; these items must be rinsed in clean, fresh water and air-dried immediately after exposure to spray from water, or immersion in water.

CLAIM INFORMATION:
Warranty claims must be made through the manufacturer, HydroOptix LLC in the U.S.A. or through one of our exclusive international distributors, not the place of purchase. Do not send your MEGA mask or MEGA accessories to HydroOptix without first obtaining an RMA number (Return Merchandise Authorization). Any HydroOptix item confirmed as defective by us will be replaced free of charge with an identical item, or if the item is no longer available, with a similar product or one of equivalent value.

All returned items must be shipped freight prepaid. Please use a package delivery service that is able to track and insure your items -- we recommend UPS Ground or DHL service. The following must be included in your package when submitting a claim:

- The damaged product.
- A written description of the problem or service you are requesting.
- A copy of the purchase receipt or other proof of purchase.
- Your full name, return address, telephone number with area code and eMail (if available).
- RMA number obtained from HydroOptix, written on the outside of the box.

NOTE: Your RMA number must be clearly labeled on the outside of the shipping box. To obtain an RMA number, just eMail, fax or phone:

HydroOptix LLC
Attn: Consumer Returns
Tel: (310) 636-1700 • Fax: (310) 390-8401
E-Mail: CustomerService@HydroOptix.com

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT MAIL ORDER SALES:
Retailers in the USA that offer to sell HydroOptix masks by mail, in response to mail, telephone or Internet orders, are NOT AUTHORIZED HydroOptix dealers. If you purchase HydroOptix masks by mail, telephone order or electronically, you are purchasing from a non-authorized dealer, and your products will not be covered by HydroOptix warranties. HydroOptix has not authorized any exceptions to its “in-store only” sales policy. When you buy HydroOptix masks from an authorized dealer, you are buying from a professional who can ensure the proper fit and function of your new mask to maximize your enjoyment. When buying from an authorized dealer, you will also receive the HydroOptix factory warranty. If you have any questions as to whether a retailer is authorized, please call HydroOptix at (310) 636-1700, or visit our Dealer Listing on the web at www.HydroOptix.com.
Monocle, CoverLens™ and Stowing-Plate™
For MEGA 4.5DD Dive Mask

The HydroOptix® Double-Dome™ shape, when submerged, achieves near-perfect correction for a broad range of nearsighted vision (see Rx Conversion Chart on reverse). Above water, the mask has no optical power, and you need optical correction to see far-away objects in focus.

Monocle and CoverLens come standard with -4.5 diopter Rx. Custom Rx is available, including astigmatism Rx (Cylinder power), for an additional charge. The standard Rx may not match your exact Rx, but this is OK for most divers during the brief moments you wear the mask above water (i.e. getting off or on the beach or boat).

Choose the device most appropriate for your diving conditions:
• Monocle (Snorkeling): Use wrist-lanyard. Hold the SILVER bumper side facing you.
• CoverLens (Scuba Diving): Clips to the mask for HANDS-FREE in-focus vision.

Stowing-Plate: attaches to your Buoyancy Control Device (BCD), so your CoverLens stays handy. Retractor: prevents loss of the CoverLens while diving.

WARNING! Make sure the Stowing-Plate does not interfere with the safe operation of your BCD or Alternate Air Source! The Stowing-Plate, mounted HIGH on your LEFT shoulder, should not allow the Retractor cable to cross the air hose of your primary second-stage regulator while wearing the mask. DO NOT over-tighten the tie-wraps (could restrict airflow in the corrugated hose).

WATCH our web video about the CoverLens • • • • • Practice attaching / removing the CoverLens in air, before your first dive.

Diving with the CoverLens:
1. Secure the CoverLens to your mask – Clip the retractor cable to the CoverLens – Make your water entry as usual.
2. Leave the CoverLens on the mask during your descent. 90% of the optical power of the CoverLens vanishes when it is submerged – if you abort your decent, it is important to have clear above-water vision (i.e. to see boating hazards). When you have finished your decent, unclip the CoverLens from the mask, secure it onto the Stowing-Plate and enjoy your dive.
3. While still underwater – during your safety stop – reattach the CoverLens to the mask so you will have in-focus vision as soon as you surface. Your underwater vision stays clear because the Rx lenses lose 90% of their power underwater.

Always store the CoverLens secured to the Mask or Stowing-Plate – OTHERWISE, THE NOSE HOOK MAY BREAK.
Use fresh water to thoroughly rinse – flush retractor while pulling and releasing cable.
If cleaning is required: use non-abrasive dishwashing liquids such as Dawn®, Joy® or Palmolive®. Never use solvents.
Contact Lens (CL) range as strong as -5.5, not -6.0

Base Curve

If switching from a semi-rigid lens to a soft disposable contact, pick a Base Curve (BC) close to what you now wear.

...therefore you use diopter glasses or contacts.

A Farsighted Eye has too much power...

...therefore you use diopter glasses or contacts.

A Nearsighted Eye has too much power...

...therefore you use diopter glasses or contacts.

Farsighted Eye

(see far away better than close-up)

Perfect Eye

(see close-up better than far away)

What is your In-Air vision? (Check your prescription or ask your Eye Doctor)

Now, find your MEGA4.5 DD Diving Rx:

1. Start by finding your In-Air Prescription (Rx) in the top row.
2. Read down to the row of your Age Group to find your contact lens power (i.e. Diving Rx).

No Eye Exam required if you have a recent contact lens Rx.

If you already wear soft disposable contact lenses (CLs) for in-air vision, choose the same brand and Base Curve.

Just change the Sphere Power (+" or "-) according to the Rx Conversion Chart above.

Astigmatism Correction

If your cornea is not perfectly spherical, your Rx has a Cylinder (CYL) number.

If your CYL is strong (over ±2), the latest disposable toric contacts work great.

For mild CYL (under ±1.75), add 1/2 your CYL to your Sphere (SPH) to find your Sphere-only In-Air correction. Use this number in Step 1 above.

EXAMPLE: Right eye SPH -3.0 / CYL -1.5 = Sphere-only Rx -3.75.

Base Curve

If switching from a semi-rigid lens to a soft disposable contact, pick a Base Curve (BC) close to what you now wear.

NOTE: If you have never worn contact lenses before, do not self-prescribe. A licensed Eye Care Professional must examine your eyes to ensure the safety and health of your vision.

A little preconditioning before diving is recommended. Wear your Surface-Interval Eyeglasses over the contact lenses for two hours a day, for two days, before you go diving.

www.HydroOptix.com