USE THIS MASK IN A SWIMMING POOL BEFORE SCUBA DIVING!

Even if you have 5000+ dives under your belt, DO NOT jump into a lake or the ocean until you first try this Double-Dome (DD) mask in a swimming pool – this mask works differently than any mask you have ever worn. While it requires a bit more effort vs. a flat-mask, thousands of divers around the world agree: the wider, sharper view is well worth some minor inconveniences.

Protect your precious dive time by practicing the use of these unique features in a pool:

1. CoverLens, Stowing Plate & Retractor
2. Clearing the mask with the Twin-Turbo purge valves

The “No Big Deal” Phenomenon

When people experience a Double-Dome (DD) mask for the first time, if they do NOT make a proper A-to-B comparison in a swimming pool (Flat vs. DD), they are NOT impressed with the view! Navy Seals, commercial divers and diving eye doctors – people who should know about flat-mask distortions – all say the same thing, "Wider, but no big deal… gimmick… I’m not impressed, etc."

“Eureka!”

When dive pros do a proper A-to-B comparison, in a swimming pool, they all say, “WOW, I never realized how much flat-masks narrow my view!” When dive experts have no baseline to compare views, it’s no big deal when they experience a natural, distortion-free, panoramic vision, because that’s how they’ve seen the world every day since birth.

Fooling Your Visual Cortex

Flat masks create a powerful physiological feedback-loop, convincing divers that their view is wider than it actually is. When you look through a submerged flat dive mask, your central view is "stretched" (magnified and distorted) to cover the entire area of the front-facing glass. Your brain "knows" it sees something when your eyes angle 45° from straight-ahead. But if you angle your arm at 45°, you can’t see your arm until you arc it inward. By comparison, imagine you are above water, looking through opera glasses. Without moving the opera glasses, rotate your eyes far to the sides, up, down – all you see is black. Your brain does not “expect” to see a wider view.

Test it yourself – click to our video: www.HydroOptix.com/compare

Put your back against the concrete in a shallow corner of a swimming pool, so you are in a fixed position and see fixed reference points. Split your vision half-above / half-below water. Switch between a flat-mask and Double-Dome mask; even if your vision is fuzzy with one mask, you'll see the dramatic difference in field-of-view, and apparent object size and distance.

The bottom line: a wider view = superior situational awareness = safer diving.
Swimming Pool
A-to-B Demo

Flat Mask vs. HydroOptix MEGA® -4.5d Double-Dome™ Mask

Even divers with decades of experience do not realize how much refraction magnification distorts their diving experience. For the first time in history, HydroOptix masks let divers experience 100% natural above-water vision while underwater. When you complete the following A-to-B comparisons, you will be amazed by how much you have been missing. If you have 20/20 vision, be aware that your vision will be out of focus when submerged, unless you wear contact lenses, though you will still see the dramatic difference in image distance and size.

Always start each test with the flat mask, and use a snorkel.

1. Fixed Reference Points [Shallow End – Underwater]
   A) FLAT mask: Back into a corner at the shallow-end. Without turning your head, select some fixed reference points at the edges of your field-of-view. NOTE where your nose points, so you can recreate this same head position.
   B) Switch to MEGA/DD Mask and reposition your head, and point your nose in the exact same direction.
   C) Advantage: WOW! – Much greater field-of-view. And the pool looks bigger – TRUE Distance and Size.

2. Extended Arms [Shallow End – Above Water]
   A) FLAT mask: Stand with your head above water. Extend your arms with thumbs up to the left and right extremes of your field-of-view (what you see through the glass, not through the clear silicone skirt). Without rotating your head, drop underwater – your hands disappear. Note how far you have to swing your arms inward to see your thumbs again – look at the size of your hands.
   B) FLAT mask: While underwater, position your arms at the extremes of your left and right view. Note your new hand / arm position and size of your hands.
   C) Switch to MEGA/DD Mask and Repeat – No difference between above and below.
   D) Advantage: Improved Situational Awareness + objects are their TRUE Distance / Size – no magnification.

3a. Split-Vision [Shallow End – Above / Below with distant object]
   A) FLAT mask: Partially submerge your head so you can see 1/2 above water and 1/2 below water. Note the size and distance difference of objects that extend above / below (e.g. pool ladder, steps).
   B) Switch to the MEGA/DD Mask and repeat.

3b. Split-Vision [Shallow End – Above / Below with off-axis image-shift]
   A) FLAT mask: Hold an object with graphic detail (e.g. pool thermometer) 1/2 in and 1/2 out of the water. Keep your eyes locked on target, but slowly point your nose away. The underwater object shifts position and becomes fuzzy.
   B) Switch to MEGA/DD Mask and repeat.
   C) Advantage: Off-axis views are razor-sharp, with True Orientation, no Pin-Cushion Distortion, no Lateral Chromatic Aberration. For spearfishing, your shots will be more accurate because the fish are truly where you are pointing. You will see more fish and stop shooting baby fish (true-size).

4. Reposition to See Same View [Shallow End – Above / Below]
   A) Starting with a FLAT mask, in the middle of the shallow area of the pool, face the wall at the shallow end. Back up until both corners of the pool become visible. Estimate the distance from the wall to where you stand.
   B) Switch to MEGA/DD Mask: Move toward the wall at the shallow end, so that you are able to see only to the corners. You will be much closer to the wall, but still able to see the corners
   C) Advantage: Vastly improved Situational Awareness, as well as True Size / True Distance.