

HydroOptix Rx-1 Flat masks for FARSIGHTED divers

First, please make sure you really are farsighted, that your Rx is a “+” value for distance vision (sometimes called “DV”), in the “SPH” / “Sphere” column on your Rx form. Careful – this is NOT the same as “ADD” which is only for near vision (NV) through a bifocal (the bifocal value is always a “+” value, even for nearsighted divers).

Remember, non-Rx flat masks narrow your *field-of-view* when submerged. Because you have a strong *farsighted* vision Rx (+2.0 or greater in at least one eye), your tunnel-vision would be made worse with a conventionally made Rx flat mask. But to maintain as much underwater *field-of-view* as possible we offer a unique solution.

The surface of a traditional flat-lens mask that contacts the water *must* be flat. If the outside bulged toward the water, the water-to-air interface creates a *negative* lens, which is the principle behind our [Double-Dome masks](#). But you need a *positive* lens for your Rx.

When we grind and polish a *nearsighted* Rx shape on a “flat” mask, it is concave on the inside (*plano-concave*). This actually widens the *field-of-view* slightly vs. a plano-plano lens.

But your *farsighted* Rx requires that the inside of the lens be convex (bulging toward your eye). This geometry has two drawbacks:

- A This worsens your *field-of-view* quite a bit, narrower than a plano-plano non Rx flat lens. Above water your eyeglasses can be shaped concave toward your eye, which maintains a reasonable *field-of-view*. But a dive mask with a “+” Rx must stay flat on the front.
- B Also, your off-axis views (everywhere you look, except where your nose points) will be a bit blurry because of the oblique angle through the lens.

Our better way: a unique “carrier” to hold eyeglass lenses inside the mask. Given the laws of optics, this is the smart compromise and works great – just be sure to apply anti-fog gel on all surfaces before each dive ([it's included](#)).

