



Scuba / Snorkeling Mask User Guide

We want you to enjoy the best possible underwater vision, but because this mask works differently than any other mask you have used please take the time to become familiar with a few new guidelines. **Please read ALL of the following guidelines before using your new mask.**



WARNING! PREVENT FUZZY VISION UNDERWATER:

If you are not a “Naked Eye” match for this mask you may experience eyestrain, headache, and short-term inability to focus. Before diving with your MEGA 4.5DD mask, you should become familiar with the mask’s characteristics in a swimming pool or confined water. If your above-water vision Rx is not in the naked-eye range (see Rx Chart on last page), you will probably have to wear contact lenses to use the mask. 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 4.5DD mask lens is made of optical polycarbonate. It is hard-coated on the outside to resist scratches, but it is not scratch-proof. **DO NOT CLEAN THE LENS WITH ANY SOLVENTS.**

NanoFOG™

LENS COATING PREVENTS FOGGING



DO NOT SCRUB



DO NOT SCRUB THIS LENS PRIOR TO USE. At the factory this lens was **Hard Coated** on the **outside** to resist scratches, and **NanoFOG** coated on the **inside**. When diving with a traditional mask, fogging occurs when tiny beads of water-vapor cling to the inside of the lens. Our Hydrophilic (water-loving) NanoFOG coating absorbs these tiny beads of moisture. **The NanoFOG coating becomes soft in water – handle carefully to prevent scratches on the inside of the lens.**

- **Before diving:** Pour in 1-Oz / 30-ml of **drinking** water, roll the mask around so the water touches all areas inside the lens, drain and go diving. Pre-dive activation of the NanoFOG coating with **drinking** water prevents salts and minerals from degrading the effectiveness of the NanoFOG coating.
- **After diving:** Remove salt crystals and sand by dunking in FRESH water – do not rub the soft NanoFOG coating to remove this debris, just flush with a gentle stream of water. Do not leave the mask submerged in a rinse-bucket where other objects floating in the water could drift inside the mask and scratch the NanoFOG coating.
- **To dry:** Prevent water puddles at the bottom of each dome by placing the mask silicone skirt down (domes-up). (See picture at right.)
- **To clean:** Suntan lotions and body oils reduce the anti-fog properties. After fresh-water rinsing, clean the NanoFOG coating with McNett® SeaGold™ Anti-Fog Gel. Use gentle finger pressure to massage the gel into the NanoFOG surface while adding a little **drinking** water to reduce friction; rinse.



WARNING! PREVENT MASK SQUEEZING:

Pressure increases when descending in water. Just after you equalize or “clear” your ears, you should also equalize your mask to avoid “mask squeeze”. 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.

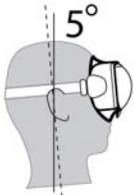
Optical Quality

Your new HydroOptix MEGA 4.5DD 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 the water-side of the Double-Dome lens. 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.

Twin-Turbo™ Purge Valves

To expel water from the mask while submerged, DO NOT tilt the bottom of the mask away from your face and exhale through your nose. Your mask has patented **Twin-Turbo™** Purge Valves – just a slight exhalation of air through your nose forces all the water out. The **Twin-Turbo™** system consists of two snorkel-sized flapper valves that direct all water out of the mask and keep bubbles away from your field of view.

Because of the bowl-shaped lenses, it is important to vent all water from the mask. Otherwise, when looking straight down at the bottom, water will puddle at the lowest point and obstruct your view.



- 1) Your head must come 5-degrees past vertical in the water so the Twin-Turbo valves are the lowest point of the mask and water flows downhill – **backwards** – against the flapper valves. Otherwise a few drops will remain in the purge-chamber and dribble back into the dome lens area when you resume a head-down position.
- 2) To keep a watertight seal while exhaling, especially across your upper-lip, some divers apply slight pressure to the nose pocket with a single finger or back of their hand.
- 3) Exhale **gently** through your nose – blowing too forcefully will break the skirt's seal and water will leak into the mask.
- 4) **While blowing**, tilt your head **slightly side-to-side** so each valve alternates as the lowest point.



The silicone purge flapper valves can feel “dry” to the touch (in air), caused by salt / chemical deposits. These deposits reduce the stickiness between the flapper and the hard plastic valve seat, **which can cause a minor leak.** **SOLUTION:** Rinse in fresh water and rub silicone grease into the silicone flappers. Use viscous grease from a tube, not aerosol. The stickiness (surface-tension) from the silicone grease prevents the flapper from opening when minor pressure changes might otherwise cause a “burp.”

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, which is for SCUBA lenses. Impact resistant lenses can break or shatter and cause injury to the user if subjected to undue force or impact. **THIS LENS DOES NOT MEET SAFETY STANDARDS FOR ABOVE-WATER SAFETY EYEWEAR.**



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

Above-Water Vision

Be aware that the MEGA 4.5DD 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. Standard lens is –4.50 for monocle and CoverLens, which most divers find satisfactory. A custom Rx is available for the CoverLens or monocle accessory, which can exactly match your sphere (SPH) and cylinder (CYL) Rx. Between dives, when you are back on the boat / beach, you will find it is more convenient to keep your Diving Rx contact lenses in your eyes. But to restore sharp vision during your surface-interval, you may want to wear our optional **Surface-Interval Eyewear.**

For more information, click to www.HydroOptix.com.

Safe Hygiene and Use of Contact Lenses

If you are a diver who requires contact lenses in order to use the MEGA 4.5 Double-Dome 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 must be fit and prescribed by a licensed Eye Care Professional. All eyes are slightly different in size and shape. Obtaining contact lenses without a prescription could lead to serious vision problems due to incorrect fit. An eye exam every two years is recommended 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.



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. Get familiar with using the provided CoverLens (over the mask) and optional Surface-Interval Eyewear (worn between dives over your Diving Rx contact lenses).
- 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 contact lenses immediately and discard (if one-day disposables) or store (if multi-day lenses) in disinfectant solution, according to the procedures shown to you by your Eye Care Professional. Never leave contact lenses in your eyes overnight.
- Carefully follow the hygiene protocols shown to you by your 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, RINSE off the disinfectant with a sterilized saline solution to avoid stinging as you place the lenses on your eyes.

Warranty

WARRANTY PERIODS:

HydroOptix provides a **One-Year Warranty** from the date of purchase against defects in materials or workmanship on the MEGA 4.5DD 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 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 and 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 Surface-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 4.5DD mask or 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 attached Rx Conversion Chart). 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.



Securing the Stowing-Plate

The Stowing-Plate can be semi-permanently attached to your buoyancy control device (BCD) with the provided tie-wraps. **CAUTION: DO NOT Over-tighten the tie-wraps, which could restrict airflow within the corrugated hose.** Always store the CoverLens on the Mask or Stowing-Plate, OTHERWISE, THE NOSE HOOK MAY BREAK.

Attaching the CoverLens to the MEGA Mask

Grasp the CoverLens with your RIGHT hand as shown. (Hint: when wearing the mask, it is easier to center-align the CoverLens by aiming the back of your thumbnail toward your nose). Engage its top hooks into the receiving pockets. Arc down until the center hook touches the front of the lens. **Tug downward** on the CoverLens to flex the TOP hook-arms (pulling with your thumb / middle-finger grip) and at the same time press lightly with your 1st finger to guide the nose hook into place. **To Remove:** Combine the same downward-tug + 1st finger pressure. Arc forward and lift clear.



Attaching the CoverLens to the Stowing-Plate

Use THE SAME 3-finger grip, engage the two top hooks and gently pull the frame down and arc the CoverLens into place. The nose hook should engage smoothly. Connect the retractor cable.
To Remove: depress the nose hook, then arc (no more than 25°), lift and clear.

CAUTION!



The CoverLens will break if you arc too far while the top hooks are trapped in the Stowing-Plate slots. **PULL clear** after no more than 25° of upward arc.

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.**



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 light cleaner (e.g. Johnson & Johnson Baby Shampoo).



Rx Conversion Chart

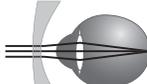
Many naturally nearsighted divers can use this mask with their naked eyes (see **Naked-Eye Match** below). Thousands of other divers around the world wear contact lenses to enjoy Double-Dome vision.

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

Nearsighted Eye
(see close-up better than far away)



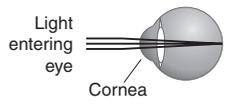
A **Nearsighted Eye** has too much **+** power...



...therefore you use **-** diopter glasses or contacts.

Perfect Eye
20/20 Vision
(1.0 in Japan)

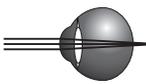
Very close focus ability is required to wear the MEGA Double-Dome mask. Therefore, you must wear **+** power contact lenses.



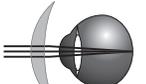
Light entering eye
Cornea

Farsighted Eye
(see far away better than close-up)

A **Farsighted Eye** has too much **-** power...



...therefore you use **+** diopter glasses or contacts.



Now, find your **MEGA 4.5DD** 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).

If you are 40+ and wear glasses only for reading (presbyopic), you wear +4.5 contacts. See **Magic Bifocals**, on our website at www.HydroOptix.com

| | | -7.0 | -6.5 | -6.0 | -5.5 | -5.0 | -4.5 | -4.0 | -3.5 | -3.0 | -2.5 | -2.0 | -1.5 | -1.0 | -0.5 | 0 | +0.5 | +1.0 | +1.5 | +2.0 |
|-----------|----------|------|------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|---|------|------|------|------|
| AGE GROUP | 40+ | -2.5 | -2.0 | Naked-Eye | | Match | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Naked-Eye | | Match | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Mid-30's | -3.5 | -3.0 | Naked-Eye | | Match | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | Naked-Eye | | Match | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Under 30 | -4.0 | -3.5 | Naked-Eye | | Match | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Naked-Eye | | Match | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

* Contact Lens (CL) range as strong as **-5.5**, not **-6.0**

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