

# WHY DIVE A FULL FACE MASK ?

The straight facts about  
Full Face Masks!

Get onboard with the  
future of SCUBA diving!



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**OCEANREEF**<sup>®</sup>  
connecting divers

# WHY DIVE A FULL FACE MASK?

Instead of asking why you should dive with a full face mask (FFM), maybe you should ask yourself, "Why not?" If you've never used one before, you may be unaware of the features and benefits a FFM provides.

Whether you've been diving for years or just earned your C-card, common goals unite all divers—safety, comfort, and of course, adventure, just to name a few. You depend upon your dive gear to help you reach these goals each time you dive. A FFM could be just the piece of gear you need to enhance your future diving adventures.

Professionals use FFMs because they offer extra protection when diving in extreme conditions, and until recently FFMs were only available to these divers. However,



user-friendly design and affordable prices have made FFMs accessible for all divers. Today, lack of awareness is all that stands between a recreational diver and a FFM.

If you're interested in a FFM, but not sure where to find one, just ask the owner of your local dive shop. He or she may even be able to set up a FFM demo at the store so you can really learn what sets a FFM apart. And don't forget the internet! Check out the website of any FFM manufacturer and you will find information on the product and places to purchase it.

So, if you want to learn more about FFMs—and how they can push your diving to the next level—keep reading. You are sure to discover some answers to that original question, "Why dive a full face mask?"



# THE EVOLUTION OF SCUBA EQUIPMENT

Scuba diving has evolved from an activity for a few experts into a hobby for millions of people throughout the world. In the last 20 years, improvements in equipment have completely changed the way we dive by increasing safety and comfort.

Masks and regulators have traditionally been separate units, but by keeping the mask and regulator separate, we allow the rest of the face to be exposed to the elements, thus losing precious body heat. And, since humans breathe primarily through their nose, while using their mouth

for communication, it's reasonable to say that the separate mask and regulator set-up is relatively unnatural. By integrating these two systems, we can solve several problems: we are more thermally efficient; we can communicate; we have a broader field of vision; and we are much more comfortable.

Now, divers have the ability to use more sophisticated systems than ever before. We are able to dive like real "aquanauts" to explore the last frontier on the planet: the oceans!

## Just breathe... it's that easy!

You breathe every minute of every day. Inhaling... exhaling... for most people, the process is virtually effortless. Congratulations, you've mastered the breathing technique for a Full Face Mask!



Some divers are unnecessarily concerned that a new kind of mask will require a new way of breathing. It's just not true. In fact, with a full face mask you can breathe underwater the same way you breathe on land—through your nose, mouth, whichever is most comfortable!

Since you no longer have to hold the regulator in your mouth, you no longer need to breathe through your mouth only. A normal breathing pattern will help you conserve your air and relax your body, which equals a longer, more enjoyable dive.

Relax. Enjoy your dive. Just breathe.

**There are a lot of misconceptions about full face masks.  
We'll set you straight on the five most common myths.**

## **“It’s only for professional divers.”**

That may have been the case in the past, but now FFMs are user-friendly and affordable. So, why should the pros have all the fun? Recreational divers can benefit from a FFM, in many of the same ways that professionals do. Visibility, communication, protection—don’t all divers want these qualities in a mask? Just because every diver on the block hasn’t bought one yet, doesn’t mean you can’t use a FFM on your next diving trip!

## **“It’s too expensive.”**

Just ask yourself, is it worth it to buy one FFM and have it last a lifetime? And, what price do you put on your comfort or your safety? Look at the cost of a FFM and integrated regulator versus the cost of any high-quality conventional mask/regulator set-ups. The costs are comparable; and, with a lifetime warranty and upgradeable features, the FFM is built to last.

## **“It’s only useful for communication.”**

FFMs are a great tool for underwater communication since, unlike a conventional mask and regulator set-up, they allow divers to talk underwater. However, communicating isn’t the only benefit of a FFM! (For more benefits, check out our top ten list on the next page.) And if you crave silence, remember, communication devices are always optional!

## **“If my mask floods, it’ll be hard to clear.”**

First of all, the mask won’t flood, we promise. FFMs are designed to seal snugly around the face, in order to prevent flooding during a normal dive. But, even if you remove and replace your mask while underwater, causing water to get inside the mask, just exhale or push the purge button and you’ll be dry again!

## **“It looks too complicated.”**

FFMs are easy to use, but in order to be sure you know all the features of your mask, just get trained. It’s a simple solution to a common fear. Before you got your first C-card, scuba diving probably seemed pretty complex, too. Did that stop you from diving? Didn’t think so.

# TOP 10 REASONS TO DIVE A FFM



- 1 Visibility**—a FFM has a greater visual field than a traditional mask
- 2 Communication**—with the addition of an underwater communication device, you can speak to other divers
- 3 Security**—a FFM's sturdy multi-strap system means it cannot be knocked askew while diving
- 4 Comfort**—no more jaw fatigue from holding a regulator in your mouth
- 5 Specialty**—add another specialty to your diving repertoire with FFM training
- 6 Accessories**—there are lots of neat add-ons to try out with your FFM
- 7 Protection**—a FFM covers the whole face, protecting it from the elements
- 8 Relaxation**—a FFM allows you to breathe in a normal, relaxed way
- 9 Versatility**—a FFM can be customized for a variety of diving conditions
- 10 Smiles**—ditch the “blowfish look” in your underwater photos and smile



**A**t the 2004 Undersea Festival in Belgium, brave diver Inneke Van de Vivijier stayed underwater for a record-breaking 24 hours straight. Afterward, she cited her FFM as the key to keeping herself comfortable because she was able to breathe freely through her nose while submerged.



Women's Underwater World Record Holder,  
Inneke Van de Vivijier

“I am an instructor and I highly recommend a full face mask for anyone teaching new divers, especially kids. When teaching, I occasionally have to use a conventional mask and regulator, but each time I do, I can't wait to get back to my full face mask!”

*Jerry Price*

*Kickady Scuba, Conroe, TX*

“I was on the verge of giving up my diving. The in-mouth regulators were drying my throat out so bad, [I had] asthma problems at depth. Then I saw [a FFM] on a website. I read the specs and decided to give it a try. Let's just say I am [now] not only back to diving, but diving more than I ever have before!”

*Terry Martin*



## Do I need to take a class?

Any diver knows that proper training always equals a safer, more enjoyable dive. Your first experience diving with a full face mask should be unforgettably positive. A full face mask training course can be the key to ensuring that great first dive.

Diving with a full face mask is easy, but if you've never tried one before a class can be incredibly beneficial. A full face mask training course provides you with the basic technical knowledge necessary to be a competent full face mask diver. This knowledge allows you to dive with all the benefits of safety, fun, socialization, and product satisfaction.

FFM training is available from certified instructors. Though the training period can differ for each diver, most can be trained in a single-day session; however, in-depth specialty courses are available.

# WHY OCEAN REEF ?



Ocean REEF, Inc. has developed over the course of 50 years from a small dive shop, where diving masks and fins were molded by hand, to a leading FFM and underwater communications manufacturer. We have done this by consistently being on the cutting edge of diving technology.

Although Ocean REEF products are not molded by hand anymore, the same personal care that went into each product then is still put into each product made today. Our masks are not only aesthetically pleasing, but have also proven time and again to be extremely durable and dependable. Every Ocean REEF product is thoroughly tested before being sold, so you can put your mind at ease and enjoy your underwater adventure knowing that your safety is in good hands.

Ocean REEF is the only manufacturer to produce a complete system featuring

- the Neptune series of full face masks
- underwater communication systems
- integrated audio/video systems
- integrated audio/video systems
- Shield Display (Heads-up display)
- a variety of accessories designed for commercial, rescue, and sport divers.

We have created a superior piece of diving equipment in our Neptune Space. Its unique features include

- Clamping band—holds skirt in place and prevents distortion
- Polycarbonate face shield—scratch resistant and impact resistant; can withstand impact of 1" steel marble at 320 mph
- Three-way adjustable equalization system—adjusts in three directions to accommodate any face shape
- Adjustable exhaust valve—adjusts to point exhaust in any direction
- Two sizes—small/medium and medium/large sizes fit nearly 100% of the population.

The Neptune System is the future of scuba diving. Join the thousands of divers who have already experienced the Neptune System. Once you try diving with the Ocean REEF full face mask, you, too, will discover the next wave in scuba diving.

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