The Guardian Quick Start Guide

**NOTE**

It is strongly suggested that anyone planning to dive the Guardian Full-Face Mask (GFFM) read and fully understand the GFFM manual prior to diving the mask. This is a quick reference guide only.

**NOTE**

Equalizing is extremely important for the safety and comfort of your dive. Make sure you can equalize in the mask PRIOR to diving.

1. First, set up your equalizing assembly to custom fit your face. The two slits on the side of the V-Block allow you to make the V-Block shorter, or taller if needed. The mask also comes with V-Pad inserts for additional building up of the assembly.

2. Once you have set up your equalizing assembly, don the mask, push up on the regulator and verify you can equalize smoothly. The V-Block assembly should block your nostrils with little effort allowing you to clear.

**NOTE**

Equalizing in a full-face mask should not be hard. Keep adjusting your assembly so you can get a good clear and it is right for you.
Donning The Mask

1. Make sure residual water is drained from the mask prior to diving.

2. Fully extend all straps — never pre-adjust straps. If you have communications move these to the rear (Figure 1). Note: Do the same for earphone assemblies.

3. Pull straps over your head and place mask on your face. Make sure the back of the harness sits low on your head (Figure 2).

4. Position chin in mask first. Wiggle face around to ensure a good fit. Keeping the harness centered on the back of your head, evenly tighten the straps on each side by pulling them back (Figure 3). Start with the lower jaw straps then the temple straps. Tighten the top strap only as needed.

5. Open ABV to conserve air on the surface.

6. Make sure you can equalize.

7. Ensure tank valve is fully open.

**IMPORTANT: PRIOR TO EACH DIVE CLOSE ABV**

Take 2 deep breaths while watching your SPG. There should be NO significant drop in pressure.

MAKE THIS A HABIT PRIOR TO EACH ENTRY.

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Diving The Guardian

1. Prior to diving, always firmly turn ABV clockwise to close. To prevent leaks do not dive with the ABV open. Note: While on the surface, or for long surface swims, the ABV can be opened to conserve your tank air. Surface swims need to be performed on your back with the mask completely out of the water.
2. While diving breathe normally — **NEVER HOLD YOUR BREATH.**

3. If the mask leaks air, tighten the mask as needed to eliminate the leak. The mask should be snug but not uncomfortable.

4. If flooding occurs, clear out any water by facing up at a 45 degree angle and purge the mask for 3 seconds while pulling out slightly on the bottom of the mask. Cautiously inhale to ensure the water has cleared. Face down at a 45 degree angle and exhale forcefully to clear any remaining water. Repeat if necessary.

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**Removing The Mask**

1. To remove the mask, place both hands on the base of the mask. Using your thumbs, pull forward on the tabs of each of the lower jaw buckles. Rotate the mask out and off the chin, up and over your face.
1. Remove the second stage regulator from the mask by pressing the red button on the inside of the mask (*Figure 1*).

2. Open the ABV prior to rinsing the mask. Always store the mask with the ABV open.

3. Rinse the mask and regulator in fresh water. Ensure the supply hose is still connected. A mild soap or disinfectant solution may be used.

**NOTE**
Make sure water does not get inside the hose. While rinsing, use your thumb to plug the silver opening of the hose so it will stay dry (*Figure 2*).

4. Shake accumulated water from the regulator.

5. Hang mask upside down and shake or dry out mask manually with a soft, non-abrasive cloth (*Figure 3*). Be careful not to wipe away valve discs when drying (*Figure 4*).

**NOTE**
While shaking mask out, pull down face and oral/nasal seals to drain residual water (*Figure 5*).