

**General comments:**

The ProEar is not just another mask but is indeed an entire new concept in diving safety and comfort. As an entirely new product, it takes a little getting used to. The silicone ear cups, equalization tubes and especially the strap configuration take some time to get used to but after one or two dives the ProEar becomes as natural and comfortable (even more so) than the standard mask you have been diving with. The increased sound and hearing capabilities also takes getting used to.

Please try this on for the first time in a pool if possible.

**How to Use ProEar:**

When you put on the mask it is preferable to hold the ear cups in the palm of each hand and pull slightly apart as you slip the mask over your head. Make sure that as little as possible of hair gets into the ear cup. Make sure that the ear cup covers the entire ear and that the ear is in the middle of the ear cup and that the silicone seals are not folded or bent. It would be helpful if your buddy could check the seals and positioning of the mask.

Make sure the mask is snug but not too tight, make sure the straps are sitting well on the back of the head and if you are using the optional top strap, adjust it only after positioning the mask and adjusting the back strap. Do not tighten down the top strap too hard. The main strap carries the ear cups (which can be adjusted). You will note that the strap sits a little lower than normal due to the fact that it supports the ear cup. This slightly lower positioning takes a little getting used to but should not effect the sealing of your mask. In any respect, if this happens then it is recommended to use the optional top strap.

When you begin your dive, descend slowly while very gently blowing air through your nose, the air will go through the tubes (and the one way valve which prevents a back flow of water in case of flooding, this valve may "whistle" slightly if you blow too hard) into the ear cups and help equalize the pressure in your mask and ear cups thus creating a "closed circuit" system of ambient air pressure. Do not blow too hard. You may need to pinch your nose shut (as normal) occasionally to help with the equalization.



If you get water into the ear cups (through leakage or taking off your mask), it is possible to drain out the water while diving. With your head facing forward press the top of the ear cups against the head and blow air through the nose. The increased air volume should push the water out (through the drainage cuts at the bottom of the ear cup). Due to the slight resistance caused by the one way valves located in the air tubes it may be necessary to push the top of the mask against the head as well. This can easily be done using both hands. It is important to note that while sudden flooding

may involve cold water entering your external ear canal it will not involve any increase of pressure as the entire system by definition is under the same ambient pressure all of the time.

If water persists to stay in the cups then try clearing one ear cup at a time by pinching shut the tube on the opposite side and then blowing air through your nose.

Prior to use, make sure you wash the mask carefully, especially with a brand new mask, use soap, toothpaste or lens defoggers. It is also recommended to wash the ProEar mask carefully with fresh water and dry properly after every dive.

### **Diving with a Hood:**

It is possible to dive while using the ProEar mask with a hood. There are basically 2 options:

1. Put the hood on and then peel it back off the head, place the ProEar mask on your face and over your ears and then carefully place the hood back on the top of your head over the ear cups and mask straps.
2. By using the specially designed ProEar hood which will be available soon. This hood will allow for you to put the mask on over the top of the hood.\*



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\* It is essential in most northern climates to dive with a wet suit hood, or semi-dry or dry suit hood year around. When using the ProEar mask it is impossible to put the mask on over the top of the hood unless you make a hole in the hood at the exact place where the ear cups are placed. The hole should be roughly the exact same size as the plastic covers of the silicone ear cups. That is slightly smaller than the actual silicone seals so as to allow for the stretch factor of the hood. The size and position of the holes actually should be made while wearing the hood over the mask and ear cups so as to make sure the position and actual size are correct. In this case, you should put the hood on then place the mask over the top and once the ear cups are in position pull the hood out slightly and place the silicone cups in position will making sure that the seals are sitting correctly against the head. Once the cups are properly positioned then return the hood to its normal position and you are ready to dive.

### **FAQS**

#### **Q Does wearing the ProEar feel a little strange at first?**

**A** The ProEar is a totally new concept and style for diving. Like all new things it takes some time getting used to. We believe that once you get used to this new style you will indeed be very comfortable as this has been our experience to date. It usually takes 2 or 3 dives before this happens. It is reminiscent of when the Life Vest (earlier form of todays BC) was introduced into the diving market around 30 years ago. There

was resistance by the veteran divers due to discomfort etc. But in the end, the L.V.πs benefits and improved styling won the day and now every diver uses a B.C. today.

**Q How do I wear the ProEar and what happens if water still leaks into the ear cups?**

**A** Once again, this is a matter of technique and practice. We have a detailed section in our website titled "[How to use](#)" but basically The ProEar if properly worn will fit almost all head shapes. If someone has especially skinny features or extremely curly and long hair there may be some small leakage which can easily be cleared while diving. Most of the problems come from not wearing the gear properly and can be corrected with proper instruction and supervision. The good news is that even in the worst case scenario, the only thing that happens if a perfect seal is not achieved is that water gets in your ears which is where you are at diving today.

**Q If the ear cup floods will there be a sudden increase in pressure?**

**A** No, this cannot happen as the mask and ear cup create a "closed circuit" ambient pressure system. Essentially the mask pressure and the ear cup pressure are the same as the surrounding water. What you will feel is a sharp drop in temperature, especially in colder waters as the warm, dry environment becomes a cold wet one!!!

**Q How long would it take to get use to it?**

**A** Like I said, 2-3 dives max. We generally recommend practicing for the first time in the pool.

**Q Is this product is for ear-problem diver only?**

**A** Absolutely not, There are 3 markets for the ProEar mask:

1. **Problem Solving Market:**

People who have chronic ear problems whether due to recurring infections, perforated or damaged ear drums or difficulty clearing their ears due Eustachian tube problems. The ProEar will be helpful divers in these areas and they should have a ProEar mask, even if it is on Stand-by in their gearbag. This is especially true for diving professionals like Dive Instructors or Dive Masters who make their living taking people diving and cannot afford to miss valuable diving days. It is a fact that the segment of the diving industry who suffer most from ear infections are instructors who work in heated swimming pools!!

2. **Problem Preventing Market:**

The ProEar mask will be very beneficial to those divers planning a diving holiday in which they will doing multiple dives. My experience in over 30 years of instruction and leading diving trips has taught me that almost all of our guests had a least one bad day out of 10 diving days dealing with ear problems. If one realizes in advance that there is a good chance that they may miss one or 2 diving days on a long dreamt of and costly diving holiday due to ear problems then it only makes sense that they prepare themselves accordingly. One ProEar mask which should retail for between \$100-\$120 and is a worthwhile investment especially when one takes into account that missing 2 days of diving on a live-aboard or diving resort can be 5 times more costly!!!

3. **Comfort and Safety:**

It is a fact that the ProEar was invented and developed by Safe Dive Ltd. (in

cooperation with Oceanic U.S.A.) primarily to deal with items 1 and 2 above. But we soon realized during our hundreds of test dives that the concept of "dry ear" diving was in fact more comfortable than "wet ear" diving. Admittedly it take a little getting used to (generally 2 to 3 dives) but once you do, many divers will be hooked and frankly prefer to do all of their dives (ear problems or not) with the warm, dry environment of the ProEar mask.

Regarding safety, during testing of the mask we sensed for the first time that we were able to discern the "Directionality of Sound" while underwater. This was a great discovery and one of immense importance especially as a safety feature for those diving in busy boating channels. The amplification of sound takes some getting used but once again after 2 or 3 dives it becomes as normal as ever. ]

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**Q Where can I get more information on the ProEar mask?**

**A** Most of the necessary information has been prepared for you in our website but if you have any further questions then please do not hesitate to e-mail us.

Please pay special attention to the following links:

- [How to wear it](#)
- [How does it work](#)
- [Benefits chart](#)
- [Reviews and articles](#)
- [Testimonials](#)

**Q Can we use optical lenses with the ProEar?**

**A** The ProEar mask was designed especially to accommodate optical lenses. In fact we can provide stock lenses at very economical prices.

**Q Can we use the ProEar with a hood?**

**A** There is no problem putting a light (up to 3mm.) hood over the entire ProEar system. For thicker hoods and colder waters it is recommended to use a purpose designed hood which Safe Dive Ltd. And Oceanic-Safe Dive will be marketing soon.

**Q What colors do the mask and skirt come in?**

**A** The mask frames come in black, opaque blue, translucent blue, neon pink, neon yellow, neon green and clear. The mask skirts come in either clear or black silicone.