

SCUBA Regulator Checklist

These guidelines are not a substitute for the instruction manual that came with your regulator.

Before each use, give the regulator assembly a thorough visual inspection and functional test.

Inspection and preparation checklist:

1. If using a Nitrox mix, then analyse the gas and label the cylinder.
2. Inspect both the first and second stage regulators for any signs of external damage.
3. Remove the regulator dust cap and inspect the condition of the first stage filter. It should appear clean and free of any corrosion or discoloration.
4. Carefully inspect all hoses at their fittings, and ensure that they are securely connected into their respective ports on the first stage. It may be necessary to slide the hose protectors back to expose the fittings.
5. Inspect the length of each hose, and ensure that they are not blistered, cut, or damaged.
6. If present, turn the second stage *Venturi Control Lever* to ensure that it is set to the “Min” or “Minus” or “Pre-Dive” position.
7. If present, turn the second stage *Inhalation Control Knob* “in” (clockwise) until it stops. Do not apply excessive pressure.
8. Fit the BC or Wing to the cylinder (refer to the appropriate user instruction guide). Ensure that the cylinder is sitting securely and cannot come loose.
9. If present, remove the dust cap from the cylinder valve.
10. Clear the cylinder valve.

With the cylinder valve outlet facing away from you, release a small amount of air from the cylinder by turning the hand-wheel anti-clockwise to open the valve slightly. When you hear air exiting, immediately close the valve. This will clear any moisture or debris that may be inside the cylinder valve outlet opening.

11. Check that the cylinder valve O-ring is fitted, and is not worn or damaged.
12. Check that the contact surface on the inlet fitting of the first stage is not damaged.
13. Fit the first stage to the cylinder valve.

Place the first stage over the cylinder valve so that the inlet fitting aligns with the O-ring of the cylinder valve, and the Low Pressure hose of the primary second stage will be routed over the right shoulder.

While holding the first stage in place, turn the yoke screw clockwise. Ensure that the yoke

screw mates into the small dimple on the backside of the cylinder valve, and hand tighten only - do not over tighten.

14. Conduct a vacuum leak test to test the second stage exhaust valve.

Slowly inhale from the second stage. It should be possible to achieve and maintain a small negative pressure without air entering the system. Repeat for all second stages.

15. Connect the direct-feed hose to the buoyancy compensator inflator.

16. Ensure that the gauge is facing away from you, or is placed against the cylinder. Pressurise the regulator by SLOWLY turning the cylinder valve hand-wheel anti-clockwise. Continue turning the valve until it stops. With modern cylinder valves, there should be no need to turn them back a quarter or half turn.

17. Listen briefly near the first stage to check for any leakage.

If leakage is detected, immerse the first stage and cylinder valve while pressurised to determine the source.

18. Check to ensure that the submersible pressure gauge is displaying an accurate measurement of the expected air pressure inside the cylinder.

19. Close the cylinder valve and check the pressure gauge once again.

During the first minute the displayed pressure should not decrease more than a few bar as the hoses slowly expand.

20. Open the cylinder valve again.

21. Check for free-flowing regulators

Depress the purge button momentarily to blow out any dust or debris which may have entered the second stage. Release the purge button and listen to ensure that the second stage does not continue to flow any air after the purge button is released. Repeat for all second stages.

22. Inhale slowly and deeply from each second stage several times. The second stage must deliver enough air for you to breathe easily without noticeable resistance.

23. Check the quality of the gas. Impure gas can usually be recognized through an unpleasant, often oily, taste or smell.

24. Check that all devices connected to the SCUBA unit are operating correctly. For example, check that the buoyancy compensator inflator is functioning.

25. Close the cylinder valve if not diving immediately.

At the beginning of the dive:

1. If present, turn the *Venturi Control Lever* to the “Max” or “Plus” or “Dive” position.
2. If present, turn the *Inhalation Control Knob* out (anti-clockwise) until the regulator breathes comfortably without leaking or being undesirably sensitive.
3. At the start of the dive, when underwater, get your buddy to check for visible leaks. Make note of minor ones for later attention. Abort the dive if major leaks are identified.

After The Dive

1. Rinse your regulator completely in fresh water before depressurising it, and thoroughly dry the first stage and cylinder valve. This will help to prevent any contaminants from entering the regulator when it is removed from the cylinder
2. Shut off the cylinder air supply by turning the cylinder valve hand-wheel clockwise until it stops.
3. While observing the pressure gauge, depress the purge button of the second stage. When the gauge reads zero and airflow cannot be heard from the second stage, release the purge button.
4. Turn the yoke screw anti-clockwise to loosen and remove the first stage from the cylinder valve.
5. Dry the regulator dust cap with a clean towel, or with low pressure air.

While you may use high pressure air from your tank valve to blow the water off the dust cap, you run the risk of blowing out the dust cap O-ring and losing it. Additionally, placing your fingers in a high pressure stream of gas runs the risk of gas being injected under the skin, causing pain and possible tissue damage or embolism

6. Place the regulator dust cap over the first stage inlet fitting and seal it securely in place by tightening down the yoke screw. Do not overtighten it - screw the yoke screw down until snug and you have slightly compressed the rubber dust cap..
7. Dry the regulator completely in a dry ventilated place, away from heat and direct sunlight.
8. If present, the *Inhalation Control Knob* should be turned all the way out (anti-clockwise), away from the regulator body. This will help to extend the life of the low pressure seat.