How Do Scuba Divers Master Their Underwater Techniques?

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Every scuba diver must have at least an understanding of her techniques - or take a chance of potential death experiences. On each dive the diver watches the diving abilities all at one time, and keeps aware of those abilities all through the dive.

Certain underwater skills are necessary for the diver's safety on every scuba experience. Every diver must have at least a an understanding of his skills - or face potential death experiences.

On each descent the diver keeps track of the diving abilities consistently, and maintains awareness of those techniques during the entire dive.

The best way for scuba divers to control their underwater abilities is through experience and rehearsal.

The basic diving abilities that are "necessary" for underwater safety include:

Knowing where, and how far away your dive buddy is.

Buoyancy control.

Proper weighting.

Your depth.

How long you've been at depth.

Air consumption.

Underwater obstacles.

Making sure you don't touch the coral.

Finning technique.

Equipment dangle.

Losing sight of a scuba partner makes for safety hazard for both divers. The same holds true when partners get too far apart.

When you can't see your dive buddy he can't keep track of you. If your, or your scuba buddy's, gear gets entangled or snagged, the hung diver risks staying down too long if he can't release himself. When you're too far away from each other, even if you see your dive partner's in peril, you may not reach him soon enough to dislodge him before injury.

Buoyancy control is one of those skills that show an accomplished diver. When you get this ability right you hover along almost perfectly level. Your body mildly goes up and drifts downward as you inhale and exhale.

When you have unpracticed buoyancy control you bounce all over the place. Ramming into the reef,

and bottom. Or darting upward causing the chance of damaged lungs.

Knowing how much weight you need directly impacts buoyancy control. When your weight is right you'll find controlling the level of your depth easier to control.

When you have too much weight you battle gravity, and plunge into the coral and bottom. With insufficient weight you scream to the top.

Keeping an eye on how deep you are helps you have a pleasant experience during your dive without tickling the tail of the dragon we call atmospheric pressure.

Knowing how long you've been at depth also helps you keep from getting bent.

Running out of air at depth puts you in an obvious predicament.

Environment dangers come in a variety of forms at depth. Obstructions like rock and the structures of wrecks overhead restrict your ability to surface unencumbered if the need arises.

Predatory sea life sometimes attacks from the blind side. On a dive in the Bahamas a diver I know felt a nudge. Busy taking pictures at the time, he thought at first the bump was his buddy goofing off. After a second nudge he looked up to see a Hammerhead shark coming at him. He pushed the shark off with his camera, until the shark left.

Fortunately for him that Hammerhead decided he wasn't hungry enough to struggle against the camera for a meal.

Every conscientious diver knows that any form of reef contact damages the coral. That ruins the coral for future divers.

When your dive equipment hangs loosely it slides across the reef. This is coral contact, resulting in destroyed reef.

accomplished scuba divers carry out all these proficiencies habitually. They appear to have an automatic skill to do this stuff skills all at one time while enjoying their dive outing.

And they all gain their level of skills mastery by experience and practice. They get that by scuba diving often.

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