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The Complete Diver: The History, Science And Practice Of Scuba Diving



Synopsis

The Complete Diver: The History, Science and Practice of Scuba Diving is a comprehensive guide to the sport of recreational scuba diving. It is an important book not just for beginning divers and instructors but also for all who are interested in diving, marine science and ocean exploration. The Complete Diver chronicles a fascinating timeline of undersea exploration and examines the latest developments in technology that will allow man to probe deeper into the vast expanse of innerspace in the future. The Complete Diver includes chapters devoted to diving history, physics and physiology, diving medicine, health and safety practices for scuba divers, decompression theory and how to avoid the bends, diving techniques, and the future of diving. Author Alex Brylske, Ph.D., is the most published author in the field of recreational scuba diving, and one of the diving industry's most influential voices. Throughout the 1980s, as Educational Program Development Manager for PADI, Alex designed and wrote many of the programs and materials used today around the world to train divers of all levels. He has been the senior editor of Dive Training magazine since 1991. In addition to his career as a writer and diving educator, Dr. Brylske is a Professor of Marine Science at Florida Keys Community College in Key West, Florida.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book is of value to a newly certified diver or someone interested in becoming certified. As an experienced diver I had great expectations in view of the title of the book, the book description, and the credentials of the author, but I must say having finished the book that I learned very little. A good part of the book is spent on the history of our understanding of decompression sickness and on the different theories of DCS. Beyond that there is a paucity of practical information on top of what most

divers already know. Some statements in the book such as, "systems such as Spare Air are adequate (as backup) for most recreational diving applications", are just dangerously wrong. On top of that the Kindle edition at \$29.95 is much overpriced compared to other Kindle books of similar genre.

I too have been following Alex's columns in Dive Training magazine, and couldn't wait to get the complete book. All divers, regardless of experience, will benefit from reading this book because of the wealth of updated information Alex provides on all aspects of our sport. It will give you a better understanding into the art and science of diving, and how to explain it to non-divers and new students alike. And perhaps most importantly, it provides the information necessary to safely return from each trip underwater as well as protect our threatened marine environment. Very detailed and referenced, easily understood, and yes, even thought-provoking in several areas. You will learn something new, and it's guaranteed to spark conversations at your dive club meetings and at your pre-dive planning sessions. A must read!

This is a great book for the serious and not so serious diver. It contains a very good historical background combined with useful information for divers of any skill level. That said, I do not recommend the Kindle version. Most, if not all, of the graphics are distorted or show up as empty spaces. The fonts seem to change size and type without any rhyme or reason. I had hoped that I would be able to take this reference book with me on dive trips around the world without having to lug a hardcopy around. I guess that is not going to happen in the near future. Save yourself some aggravation and purchase the printed version. Hopefully the electronic version will be fixed in the near future.

I have been looking forward to the book for months. I am sure the hard back version is great. I cannot speak for the Kindle version. All I know is that the PC and iPad version using the Kindle reader versions for iPad and PC is terrible. There size, color, and type of font changes unexpectedly at time as well as other problems. Not necessarily and enjoyable read. was really good about refunding my money when I complained. I do plan on buying the hard copy because I know how much excellent information is within. The author is probably the best authority on scuba diving around today and I just hope the Kindle version is readable. I hope he puts out an iPad version soon.

I am a longtime diver, and a longtime reader of Dr. Brylske's work. I think of him as a mentor to the diving world. His numerous articles and books are always thoughtfully written, based in fact and personal experience, very educational, highly entertaining, and they are a wonderful contribution to our sport. Five stars for The Complete Diver, and for all his books. That's just the way Dr. Brylske rolls.

The Complete Diver is a must-have for scuba instructors. It doesn't matter what training agency you are affiliated with. The info in Dr. Brylske's book is important for divers of all experience levels, from Open Water thru Divemaster. And it is a very valuable resources for instructors. Invariably, students "want more" of an answer than the training materials offer. Hand them a copy of this book and your job just got a whole lot easier. Alex Brylske is very good at breaking down complex scientific theories into easy-to-understand, practical concepts. We plan to have several "loaner" copies available at our dive center. Anyone who dives should read it.

I am a new diver and bought this book to enhance my understanding of all aspects of diving. This book filled in a lot of gaps that you cannot possibly learn in a basic open water diver course. I read it from cover to cover over two days and handed it to my husband (my diving buddy!) to read. As "older beginners" (58), we are naturally a bit more cautious trying new things than we were in our twenties, however, with the additional insights and information gleaned from this book, I feel armed with important knowledge that will enable us to have safe and enjoyable diving experiences. Dr. Brylske's writing style is conversational as well as tutorial which enhances the learning experience. In my humble opinion, ALL new divers, young and old, should read this book.

This is an excellent book. There are chapters about the different types and aspects of diving. It's very well written and you can tell the author is a teacher and scientist. All the technical parts discussing partial pressure, etc seems accurate and written the way a teacher would teach it. One of the best SCUBA books I've read.

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