



REEF GLIDERS PADI DIVEMASTER COURSE CURRICULUM

What's in the PADI Divemaster course curriculum?

Many people want to take the PADI Divemaster course but few know what areas they'll actually cover. In this article we'll look at the details of the Divemaster curriculum you'll complete during your course.

It's a practical run through of the whole curriculum, if you're interested in finding more about the process itself, check out our blog: **PADI Divemaster, what's it all about?**

The first section covers everything you'll complete in our 'Classic Divemaster', below you'll find details of the added extras involved in our 'Eco Divemaster' and the 'Specialty Divemaster'.

Knowledge Development

The Knowledge Development contained in your elearning is divided into 9 chapters. Chapters 1-7 are as follows:

1. The Role and Characteristics of a PADI Divemaster
2. Supervising Diving Activities
3. Assisting with Student Divers
4. Diver Safety and Risk Management
5. Divemaster Conducted Programs
6. Specialized Skills and Activities
7. The Business of Diving and Your Career

Technically these don't have to be completed in order, however there's a natural progression that makes sense. Your understanding of chapters 1-7 is assessed in Exam 1.

Exam 2 covers:

8. Awareness of the Dive Environment
9. Dive Theory Review

You must achieve 75% in each of the 60 question exams. Exam 1 is fairly straightforward, Exam 2 is more theory focussed so it can take some preparation.

Waterskills

As a dive professional we have to assess your comfort in the water. Your waterskills exercises are as follows:

Exercise 1: 400 Metre Swim

Exercise 2: 15-minute Tread

Exercise 3: 800 Metre Swim

Exercise 4: 100 Metre Diver Tow

Exercise 5: Equipment Exchange

All exercises are scored from 1-5. The swims and tow are timed exercises and you'll earn points depending on your speed. The float is easy to score highly on and the equipment exchange is scored on your comfort level. Overall you need to earn at least 15 in total. It's quite normal for DMCs to have one or two weaker areas and make up the scores in others.

Diver Rescue Scenario.

This exercise is a review of skills you mastered during the Rescue Course. We check they're up to scratch and practice anything you need to. In a nutshell, you will: Respond to an unresponsive, non breathing diver by turning them face up and establishing buoyancy. Proceed to check for breathing, call for help and deliver effective rescue breaths every five seconds whilst towing the diver to safety.

Emergency Assistance Plan

If you haven't completed your Rescue course with Reef Gliders, you'll create an EAP for a dive site here in Roatan.

Dive Skills Workshop

We know you've got skills, you've made it this far already, but this is all about demonstrating them. You'll take part in at least 3 skills circuits where you practice and refine your demonstrations of the 24 required skills. I won't list them all here, but they range from the Buddy Check to Mask Removal and Replacement, to Neutral Buoyancy and Emergency Weight Drop. Your instructors will show you first how to demonstrate and what we're looking for.

Practical Skills

The practical skills cover aspects of the daily life of a working Divemaster.

Skill 1 — Dive Site Setup and Management - All the preparation and implementation of a dive trip.

Skill 2 — Mapping Project - Creating a detailed map of a dive site to brief your divers where they will go.

Skill 3 — Dive Briefing - You'll practice many of these

Skill 4 — Search and Recovery Scenario - Knots, search patterns and lift bags.

Skill 5 — Deep Dive Scenario - Experience of diving at depth.

Divemaster-Conducted Programs Workshops

These workshops are PADI programs or experiences you will be certified to conduct as a certified Divemaster. For your training we'll complete them all as a scenario 'rehearsal' first, then with real guests.

Workshop 1: ReActivate Program - Scuba refresher for out of practice

Workshop 2: Advanced Snorkeler Course and Snorkeling Supervision - Snorkel teaching and guiding

Workshop 3 & 4 : Discover Scuba Diving Program in Confined & Open Water - Assisting uncertified divers with their first scuba experience

Workshop 5: Discover Local Diving in Open Water - Guiding certified divers

Practical Assessment

Divemasters play an active role in diver training, so as part of your course you'll assist on at least one real Open Water course, one Continuing education course (Advanced, Rescue or Specialty) and you'll guide fundivers on the local reef.

Practical Assessment 1 & 2 — Open Water Diver Students in Confined & Open Water

Practical Assessment 3 — Continuing Education Student Divers in Open Water

Practical Assessment 4 — Certified Divers in Open Water

Professionalism

Yep, you also get scored on your professionalism! Not that surprising as we're training you to be a professional diver. It's a tough one to fail, but we'll outline the general expectations when you're here.

Reef Gliders Eco Divemaster

One of the most popular options for our candidates is the Eco Divemaster course. This includes the Roatan Marine Park Coral Restoration Certification Course and the PADI Aware course, on top of the PADI Divemaster course.

The Coral Restoration course you'll enjoy a presentation about the reef and how we can actively harvest new corals to restore its health. Then you will be involved with two dives