

## **Mauricio Handler on Close Up Lenses**

Mauricio Handler, has worked extensively in the field of underwater photography for the best of 25 years, his workshops bring to those attending a wealth of knowledge and techniques that would otherwise take years to learn on their own. Workshop participants come from all walks of life and include professional as well as amateurs from all over the world.

His work has graced countless magazines and books across the globe and he is known for his outright enthusiasm when it comes down to sharing his knowledge. His images are represented globally by National Geographic Stock and Getty.

Aquatica has asked him to answer the most frequently asked question from underwater photographer and here is what Mauricio had to share with us on this subject:

### **Question 1: Why use external wet diopters underwater?**

There is another world underwater, one that lies beyond the reach of our naked eyes and we need help in bringing this smaller world into focus. Using macro lenses that magnify to 1:1 is one way of course, but if we truly want to go beyond life size then we must use additional magnification tools to enlarge these scenes and subjects. It is here that external wet diopters make all the difference.

### **Question 2: What is the most important difference between wet close-up diopter designs?**

Some close-up lenses, also known as diopters, come in a variety of designs. Single element design typically will induce color aberrations to the image, unsealed designs loses their nominal magnification once immersed in a liquid due to refraction. For optimum results, a dual element design sealed in air, like those made by Aquatica, is what the serious underwater photographer should consider; these will yield sharp images while keeping aberrations to a strict minimum. Being sealed, they will keep their magnification factor once immersed.

### **Question 3: Why use a +5 and a +10**

Having two close-up lenses of different magnifications gives the underwater photographer more freedom to select the proper diopter for any specific subject size, while at the same time each diopter helps create a different artistic vision of the scene. To get the most out of diopters one must get close to the subject and patience is a must!

To see more of Mauricio's work and his popular underwater photography workshops and photography expeditions, please visit his website:

[www.handlerphoto.com](http://www.handlerphoto.com) and join his Pro Facebook Page

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