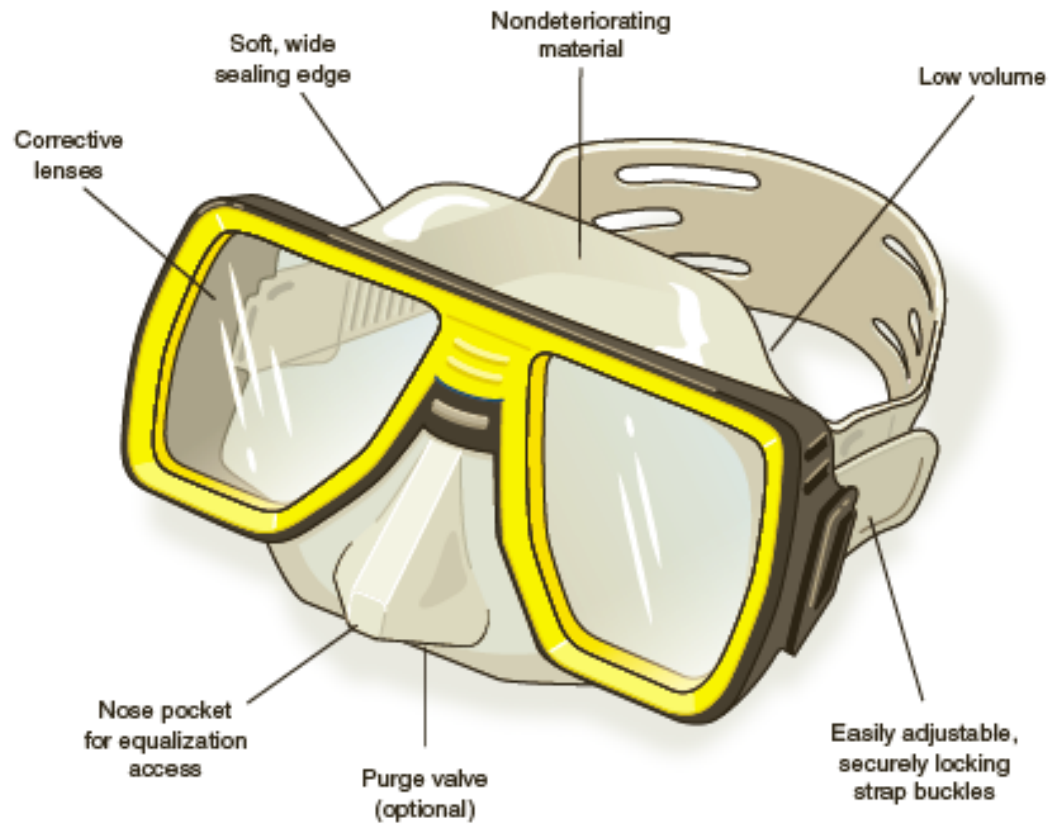
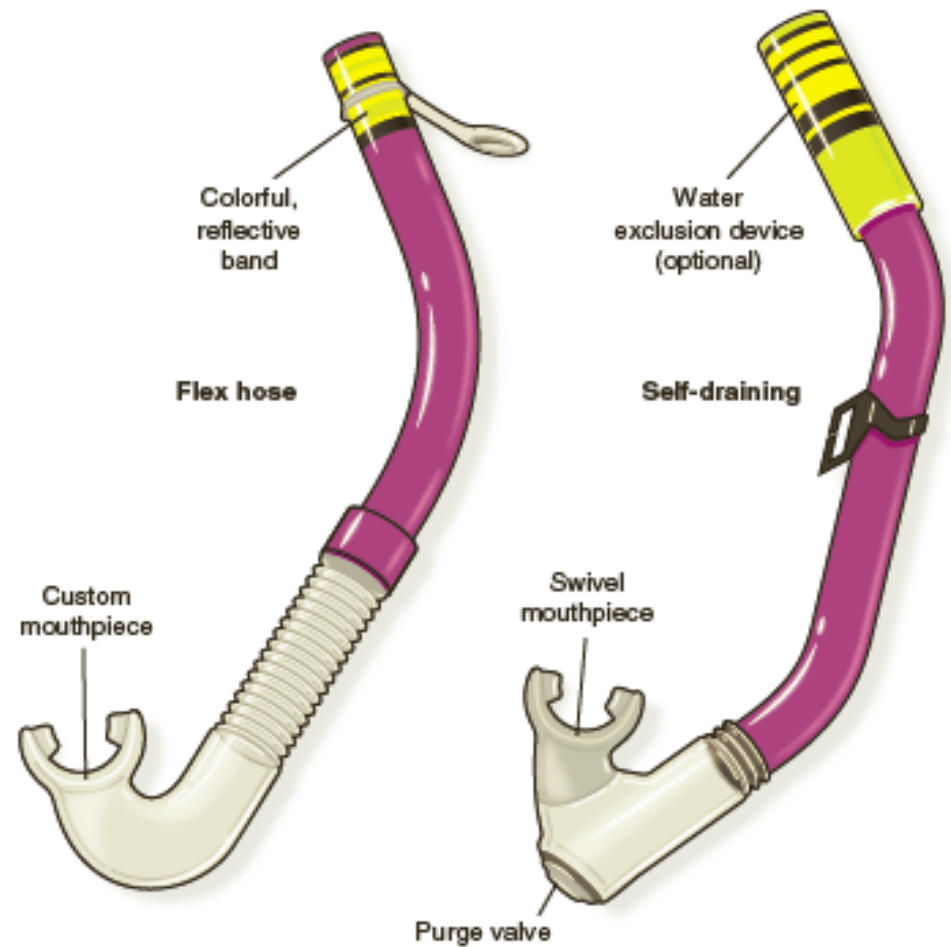
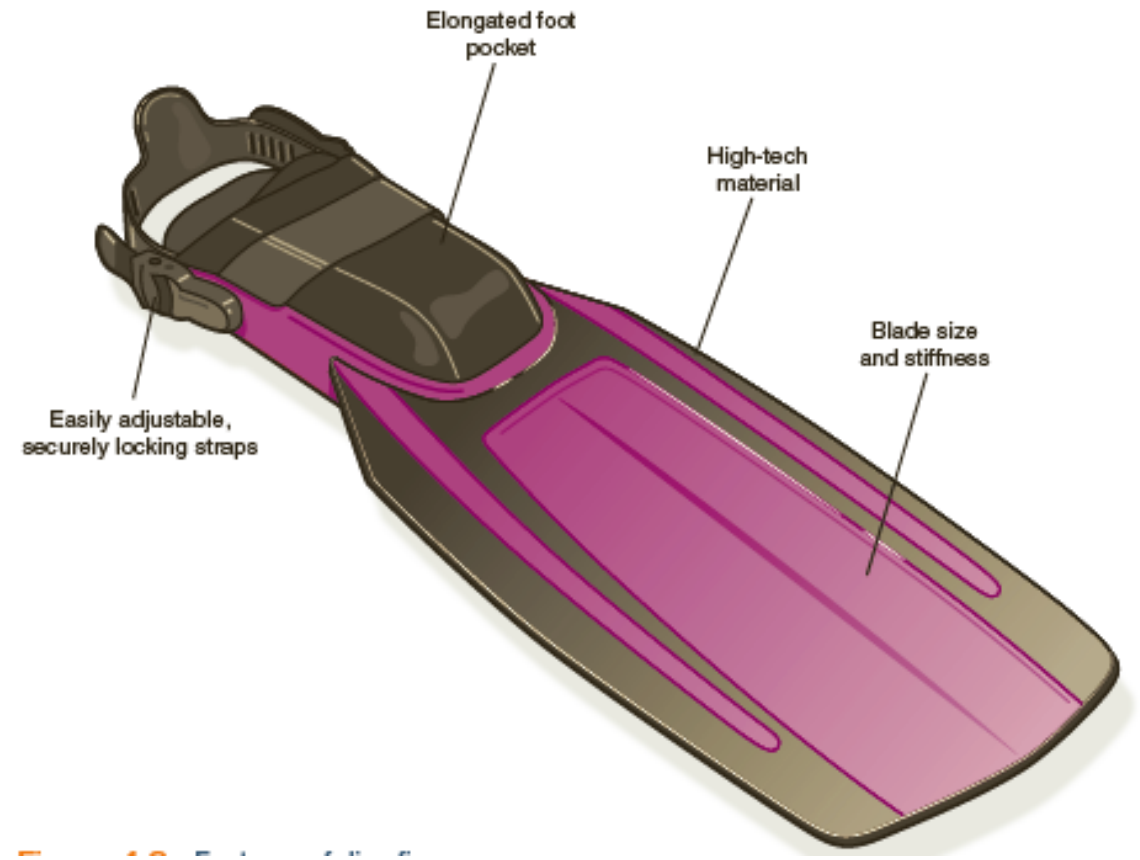


# 4. Diving Adjustments







Type	Warmth	Features	Temperature range
Spandex	45% more than bare skin	Light, compact; useful as undergarments for thicker suits	78 °F (25.6 °C) +
Thermoplastic	30% warmer than spandex	Neutrally buoyant; no weights required; wicks perspiration; windproof	75 °F (23.9 °C) +
Plush-lined thermoplastic	10% warmer than unlined	Same as thermoplastic	72 °F (22.2 °C) +
Foam neoprene 1/8 in. (2–3 mm) 3/16 in. (4 mm) 1/4 in. (5–6.5 mm)	20-100% warmer than plush-lined thermoplastic	Buoyant; weights required; long drying time; evaporation chills wearer; minor repairs easy to do	Down to 60 °F (15.6 °C)
Hoods, vests, boots, and gloves or mitts	16-66% more warmth	Reduces water circulation; layering allows flexibility for various temperatures	Down to 60 °F (15.6 °C)





**Figure 4.13** Gloves and mitts protect divers' hands from cold temperatures and injuries.



**Figure 4.14** Hoods conserve warmth in cold waters.



**Figure 4.15** The addition of a vest can increase the warmth of your wet suit by as much as 16 percent.

**TABLE 4.2** Dry Suits

Type	Advantages	Disadvantages
Foam neoprene	Form fitting and streamlined	Long drying time; hard to locate and repair leaks; buoyancy control difficult
Crushed neoprene	Durable; easy to repair; long lasting; less buoyant than foam neoprene	Less insulation than foam neoprene; expensive; somewhat bulky
Shell (two kinds) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coated nylon</li> <li>• Rubberized fabric</li> </ul>	Fast drying; easy to repair; nylon suits inexpensive; rubberized suits long lasting	Easily punctured; bulky; nylon suits do not last long; rubberized suits expensive

Type	Location of buoyancy chamber	Advantages	Disadvantages
Jacket style	Front and rear	Even lift; diver can remain upright	Not suitable for skin diving
Back mounted	Rear	Does not interfere with valve operation for dry suits	Pushes diver forward; difficult for diver to remain upright
Front mounted	Front	Suitable for skin diving; allows diver to remain upright	Need separate backpack for cylinders; requires disconnection of inflator hose before removal; does not provide as much lift as jacket



## Diving Equipment Checklist

- ✓ Mask, snorkel, and snorkel keeper
- ✓ Fins and boots
- ✓ Scuba tank (filled)
- ✓ Buoyancy compensator
- ✓ Exposure suit, hood, and gloves
- ✓ Weight system
- ✓ Regulator with pressure gauge
- ✓ Alternate air source
- ✓ Instruments to monitor depth, time, and direction (separate or integrated)
- ✓ Signaling devices (whistle, mirror, safety tube)
- ✓ Dive knife
- ✓ Float, dive flag, and anchor
- ✓ Dive tables
- ✓ Dive light
- ✓ Slate and pencil
- ✓ Marker buoy
- ✓ Collecting bag
- ✓ Gear bag

### Spare equipment

- ✓ Scuba tank(s)
- ✓ Weights
- ✓ Straps
- ✓ O-rings
- ✓ Snorkel keeper

### Secondary equipment

- ✓ First aid kit
- ✓ Emergency phone numbers and radio frequencies
- ✓ Logbook
- ✓ Swimsuit
- ✓ Towel
- ✓ Jacket
- ✓ Hat or visor
- ✓ Sunglasses
- ✓ Dive kit
- ✓ Save-a-dive kit
- ✓ Drinking water



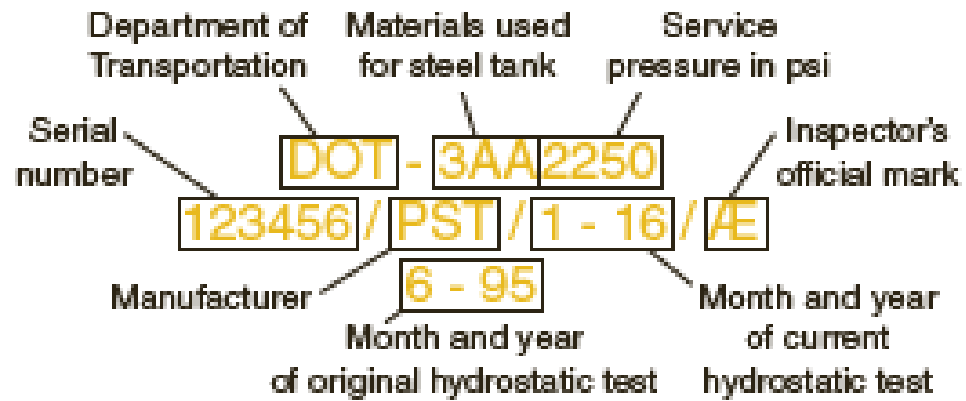


Table 4.1 Cylinder size, working pressure, and buoyancy

Capacity (ft <sup>3</sup> /L)	Working pressure (psi)	Buoyancy (lb) from full to empty
Aluminum 50/1,416	3,000	-2.7 to +1.3
Aluminum 63/1,784	3,000	-2.3 to +2.7
Steel 71.2/2,016	2,250	-2.0 to +3.6
Aluminum 80/2,265	3,000	-2.0 to +4.4
Steel 76/2,152	2,400	-6.5 to -0.1
Steel 80/2,265	3,500	-7.4 to -1.0
Steel 102/2,888	3,500	-7.6 to +0.5



Figure 4.24 K-valve.



Figure 4.25 Close-up of a DIN valve.

high-pressure  
regulators  
. The  
he

