

HOW TO CHOOSE THE BEST DRYSUIT?



How to choose the best drysuit?

If you care about comfort while diving, you want to dive longer and deeper, primarily derive from unlimited pleasure of being under water – bet on the drysuit.

Drysuits have become increasingly popular among divers. Technical divers, that often do wreck or technical diving, long and in colder waters know this perfectly well. Those who dive less often, they prefer the shorter diving in warmer waters are also increasingly inclined to opt for drysuits. Why? Because they give amazing comfort under water - we are dry, warm and comfortable. There are more benefits of their use.

Drysuit insulates virtually 100% the diver's body from the water. Thermal properties of the suit depend on the fabric from which it is made and warmer being used. It is used for all types of dives, especially in colder waters and during deep dives. It is excellent also in the course of diving, with an air temperature and water is very low, eg. Diving Ice. You could say that if we have a drysuit, diving season never ends. It is excellent during diving in very low air and water temperatures.

1. Benefits of drysuit ownership

Comfort

Drysuits give divers a large thermal comfort - both during long dives and after its completion. The diver is completely isolated from direct contact with water, so the body does not cool down so quickly.

The protection and durability

Drysuit protects us not only from the cold but also all sorts of scrapes or mechanical damage, especially when diving on the reefs, rocks, narrow caves or wrecks.

Freedom of movement

Drysuit does not directly run over the body and guarantees freedom of movement, which is very important during long dives, especially in places where the diver makes more moves underwater such as on wrecks or in narrow caves.

Excellent buoyancy

Drysuits provide much greater buoyancy than wet suits (foam). The ones that are made of laminates do not change buoyancy with depth, enabling faster and better change of the center of buoyancy during the dive, so we can easily adjust the trim.

Additional emergency source of buoyancy

Drysuit can serve as an emergency source of buoyancy in the event of failure of the main source of buoyancy.

Extending the diving season

Diving in drysuit extends the diving season, as it guarantees you the same comfort while diving throughout the year, not just during the summer season of diving.

No body contact with the water

In a drysuit our body is not in direct contact with water. This has so much importance that, if we have any wound or suffer from skin disease, prolonged contact with water is inadvisable. In addition, longer presence in the water, paradoxically, also dries our skin, which is important especially for the ladies.

Moreover, diving in drysuit leaves us with dry body both before and after swimming. Moreover, even after removing the drysuit when you want to remain for some time in undersuit, that protects us even against the wind. Neoprene suits can't guarantee that.

Easy setting

Drysuits can be put on simply and quickly, because they do not adhere directly to the body as tight foam.

Packing

Drysuit properly packed takes little space, which is especially important when traveling, for example. Plane, when we must fit in the baggage limit.

2. Types of the drysuits



Before selecting a drysuit it is worth considering to what kind of dives would it be needed. Drysuits can be made of laminates (suits membrane) or neoprene.

Beginner recreational divers believe that drysuits made of trilaminate are for very experienced divers or even extreme divers. Nothing could be further from the truth. Regardless of experience under water main goal is to be comfortable.

The suits laminates

Laminates - combined of several types of coatings, materials resulting from the combination by glueing, spraying or ultrasonic bonding several layers of fabrics with different properties. They are light, dry quickly and are much more durable than neoprene.

Due to the number of layers it is divided into:

- bilaminates - material resulting from a combination of nylon fabric with the plastic providing sealing by glueing or heat sealing layers. The sealing layer can be applied by spraying. This coating is lightweight, but less durable.
- trilaminates – three-layer fabric in which two layers - the outer polyester or nylon and the inner most common polyester are connected to the third (middle) butylene rubber. In some models highly resistant Cordura is used.

Suits with compressed neoprene:

Compressed neoprene is a neoprene subjected to very high pressure, which extinguish air bubbles. This material is durable, waterborne but it is not insulated, so you need extra clothing underneath the suit. Compressed neoprene is also covered with a layer providing mechanical resistance, but in this case suits of this type causes the stiffness and restricts freedom of movement.

The neoprene suits

Neoprene suit is made from the same neoprene, which we get wet suits, by using a collar made at the wrist and neck seal, we are isolated from the water. It constitutes insulation itself, because in the warmer water you may not need additional internal clothes. The suit is more waterborne from a layered, and in case of flooding under the water it does not become a negatively waterborne. The downside of the neoprene suit is its compressibility under pressure, and what follows decreasing insulating properties with increasing depth. Neoprene wetsuit is too difficult to fold and needs a long drying time.

3. Fit

When choosing drysuit it is worth paying attention to his cut. The suit must be first and foremost a comfortable and fit but can not hinder movement during the dive. It should be tailored to enable completion of all the necessary movements of arms and legs - the legs move freely in vertical, horizontal position and knees bent (as in classic style, whether when entering the boat) and hands (to reach the valve). At the same time should not be too large, for example: have too bulky legs.

Some companies also offer the opportunity to make some of their own production models to measure.

When selecting the suit also check how many measurement points this manufacturer requires. The larger the quantity, bigger chance the suit will be better tailored to the silhouette of the diver.

4. Measuring suit

Selection of the proper size of the suit is very important. A well-chosen size can offer us comfort and freedom of movement, mismatching and reducing them can be the basis of problems under water.

The easiest way to fit the suit good is to kneel on one knee and alternately reaching hands behind the back. If the movement is not restricted by the suit fabric is not too tight in arms. The suit should also allow you to freely hug yourself around.

When measuring, note the length and circuitry - they are designed to provide comfort, therefore they should not be neither too tight nor too long. Must be optimal. Do not make the decision alone, a professional vendor will always advise you on what size fits you best.

5. Ways to put on the suit

Drysuits differ in zipper placement, which determines how its being put on.

- Front zip - zip runs from the front usually from the left hip to right shoulder. This solution allows the diver to dress themselves.
- Zipper at the back – the zipper is located on the back, at shoulder height, from the left elbow are to right. In this solution diver requires a second person during opening and closing. Self attempt to tweak involves substantial risk of breaking the zipper.
- Other entrances - often experimental, require a special technique of dressing.

6. Equipment

Because the equipment of a complete suit consists of many elements, it is worth paying attention to their quality and whether they are available for the price of a suit or whether there are additional, paid options, which increase the cost of purchase.

Drysuit diving requires appropriate additions - gloves and boots.



Gloves

The best are dry. They provide true comfort and enjoyment of diving. Because hands in our body lose the heat the most, quality and thickness of the gloves should be close to body warmer or even hotter.



Shoes

Permanently integrated with the suit or attached separately – it can be neoprene boots, wetsuit socks and so called RockBoots. Shoe size should be adapted to socks, which we usually use for diving. In recreational diving, boots, neoprene socks are thinner, longer and deeper diving requires use of thick socks.



The wrist and neck seals

Each drysuit also has also has a neoprene or latex wrist and neck seals.

- Latex seals are usually more reliable and easier to use. It is easier to install rings for dry gloves.
- Neoprene neck seal gives better thermal protection of the neck.

In addition, the drysuit consists of:

- **Rings to attach dry gloves** - allowing easy assembly and disassembly of the dry gloves.
- **Inflator valve** - located at the center of the chest, usually rotating, allowing you to distribute gas to the suit.
- **Overflow valve** - allows you to remove excess gas from the inside of the suit, it works automatically.
- **Gas-tight lock** - enabling to put on the suit and provides water tightness
- **The relief valve** - additional valve balanced or unbalanced allows urination during the dive. Also available in men (P-Valve) and women's (She-P) type.
- **Suspenders.**
- **Hood.**
- **Patches reinforcing the knee.**
- **Reinforcing back patch.**
- **Reinforcing elbow patches.**
- **Pockets.**
- **Watertight zipper cover.**

7. The undergarments for the drysuit

Each drysuit requires additional warming. In the warm waters or during short dives thermal underwear is enough; longer, cooler waters require additional warming.

Type of warmer will depend on the fabric from which the suit is made. Drysuits made of neoprene do not require warmer or a thin lining is applied. Suits with trylaminate require warmer undergarment.

Time of freezing in drysuits is different than in neoprene. The neoprene itself has insulating properties, drysuit is not, because it freezes faster in the case of a bad body insulation.



**Which SANTI suit
to choose?**

Which SANTI suit to choose?

SANTI has 5 different types of drysuits in its offer - from the lightest to the heavier from the dedicated to universal dives under special conditions. Find out which suits you best.

SANTI suits are highly valued by divers around the world.

All SANTI suits have the same number of measurement points on the body, so is to fit best in the size - for women it is 25 measurement points, for men - 23.



- The fabric has a modern design, low weight and durability similar to Cordura.
- In standard option it is equipped with all necessary aids, allowing professional diving, among other things, long watertight plastic zipper on the front, additionally zip covered with placket, a telescopic torso and ergonomic fit.
- It contains specially designed for this model, pockets on the thighs and Kevlar patches on thin neoprene with ergonomic shape. The standards have suspenders with practical pocket for documents or keys.
- Standardly it is equipped with Flexsole boots and 9mm neoprene hood with a finish collar. We also offer a choice of different thicknesses and hood finishes.



E.motion+

- The construction of E.Motion PLUS includes top part and top front of trousers made of flexible and light 260 g/m² Ripstop trilaminate fabric and exclusive E.Lite trilaminated fabric of 535 g/m² in back of the trousers, at the belly and lower back area, elbows, crotch pad and lower part of front trousers for maximum protection where needed, at places exposed to possible damage.
- The E.Motion PLUS suit is equipped with a YKK Aquaseal plastic zipper which is very durable but also light and flexible. It is highly resistant to dirt and needs only minimal care of the docking area. SANTI offers 2 years warranty for the plastic zipper.
- E.Motion PLUS is equipped in standard with most innovative and comfortable SANTI Smart Seals® system – soft rings that allow fast and easy seal exchange for any seal you like or have at hand.
- Equipped in two big and solid cargo pockets with bungee strings to mount the equipment. In this model both pockets have a useful additional zipper fastened pocket for double ender.
- E.Motion Plus is equipped in standard with SANTI Flexsole boots and 7/9mm neoprene collar hood.



E.Motion

- Made from specially designed for SANTI rip-stop fabric with low weight and a special weave that provides high stretchability and resistance. This makes it lightweight, strong and meets the highest expectations of divers.
- Knees were reinforced with special patches made from Kevlar.
- Special cut of the crotch pad allows for comfortable leg movements.
- It is equipped with a YKK Aquaseal plastic zipper which is very durable but also light and flexible. It is highly resistant to dirt and needs only minimal care of the docking area. SANTI offers 2 years warranty for the plastic zipper.
- It has two large cargo pockets with bungee rubber bands. Rights pocket has a handy zipper pocket on the “double ender”.
- Standardly equipped with Flexsole boots and 9 mm neoprene hood with a finish collar. We also offer a choice of different thicknesses and hood finishes .



- It's cut allows us to match it perfectly to the body, without limiting the movement in any direction.
- Telescopic torso of extensibility of 30 cm allows excellent mobility, regardless of the thickness of the warmer.
- The sleeves are sewn in, in such a manner that the suit is located on the ground arranged in a Y shape rather than the T to guarantee unlimited, free hand gestures, for example. At screwing the valves. In developing the cut of the legs and sleeves we eliminated cross-stitching.
- It has two pockets in standard. Right pocket has a compartment for "wet note" and two smaller d-rings, which allows plugging buoys and a notebook on a different d-rings. This allows us to draw some elements without hooking the other in the pocket.
- The standard suit is equipped with neoprene boots and neoprene collar hood 7/9 mm. You can also choose other thicknesses hood.



- This model is equipped with all the necessary aids for professional diving. Long watertight zipper (metal or plastic) on the front is covered with additional flap. The suit also has a telescopic torso and flat seams. The standard is fixed also with suspenders with practical pocket for documents and keys and collar HD. Shoes are made of 6mm neoprene reinforced with rubber. For each model, we attach the hood of 7/9 mm neoprene.
- Another design solution to this model is the way of gluing the seams. The fabric is connected by the edges, and then hand taped from the bottom with 4 cm band. From the top webbing machine is reinforcing the tape. This gives a completely imperceptible effect of a merging, which significantly increases the comfort of use.
- It is equipped with neoprene boots and neoprene collar hood 7/9 mm. You can also choose other thicknesses hood.

Compare suit weight, material weights and material type of our suits and choose the one for your needs:

DRYSUIT	SUIT WEIGHT	MATERIAL WEIGHT	MATERIAL
E.Lite	4,2 kg	535g / m2	Ripstop Nylon*
E.Motion +	3,9 kg	260g / m2 i 535 g / m2	Ripstop Nylon*
E.Motion	3,2 kg	260g / m2	Ripstop Nylon*
Espace	4 kg	440g / m2	Nylon
Enduro	5,2 kg	620g / m2	Cordura

*Ripstop nylon is specially designed for SANTI, therefore occurs only in SANTI suits.

Check out which types of dives our suits are dedicated to:

DRYSUIT	RECREATIONAL	TECHNICAL	WRECK	CAVE	COMERCIAL
E.Lite					
E.Motion +					
E.Motion					
Espace					
Enduro					

TM SANTI

Description:

TM **SANTI** |  | **Diving Equipment**

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