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After the Dive

Caring for your equipment is the best way to avoid future problems.

A quick rinse on the boat will prevent problems later.



A thorough rinse in fresh water will help keep your equipment in good condition.

Use clean fresh water. Most rinse tanks aboard charter boats and at resort docks are loaded with a percentage of seawater so be sure to make a final rinse when you get back on dry land or to your room. If fresh water isn't readily available on the boat or at the beach, pour some bottled water on the lens as a temporary measure.

To rinse, submerge your housing in a tub of fresh water for 15 minutes or more, press each of the buttons on the control panel while they are in the water. Turn the manual controls to insure they get the benefit of the fresh water bath.

Use a dry towel to wipe the housing before removing the rear faceplate or side control panel (on some models). The object is to keep water drops from getting inside and onto the camcorder.

Like all photographic equipment, it is strongly recommended that housings and video lights be shaded and not exposed to direct sunlight for any length of time.

On a hot day, in direct sunlight, above water, it is possible for the temperature in a housing to become very hot — damage to your equipment may result.

Shade the housing or keep it covered in its case until you are ready to use it.



Storage

When storing your housing, we recommend installing a spare O-ring. Store the O-ring that you use underwater in a zip-lock bag. This practice will keep the O-ring from deforming and losing its resiliency.

Be sure to release the draw catches when storing your housing.

Keep an eye on the O-rings when you assemble your housing. Run your fingers lightly over the entire O-ring, feeling for grit, sand or fiber that may be stuck to it. A tiny grain of beach sand can cause a break in the O-ring seal and allow water to enter the housing.

A light coat of O-ring lubricant is all you need—don't overdo it.

Don't forget to check your insurance policy before traveling to make sure you have the coverage you need.