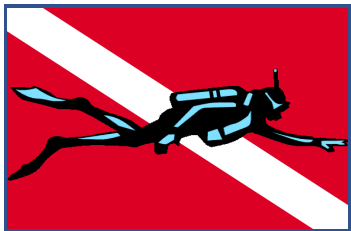


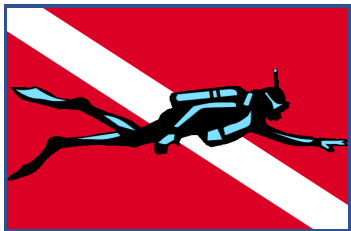
Common Scuba Hand Signals



Why Do We Need?

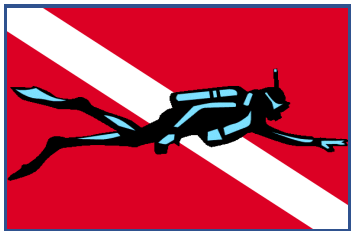


- **Most of us can't afford, or are too cheap, to purchase full-face masks with radios.**
- **And, Oh by the Way, we are an international community and don't all speak the same languages.....**
- **Therefore, we need some method for reasonably universal communication underwater.**



Results of Poor Communication

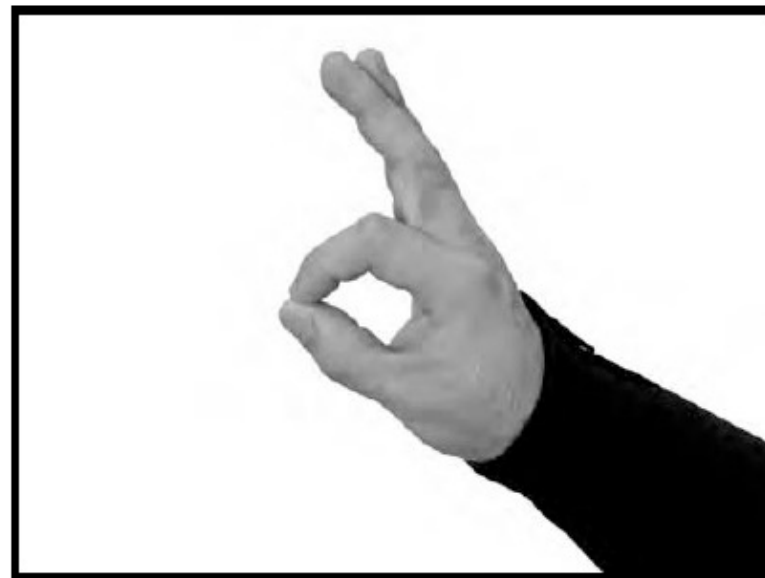




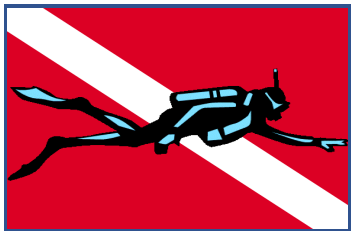
Common Hand Signals



Are you OK? or OK!



With Gloves



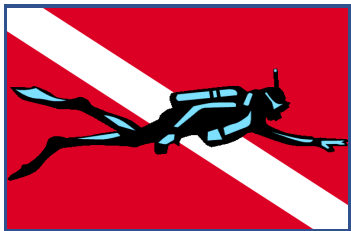
Common Hand Signals



Are you OK? or OK!
(on the surface at a distance)



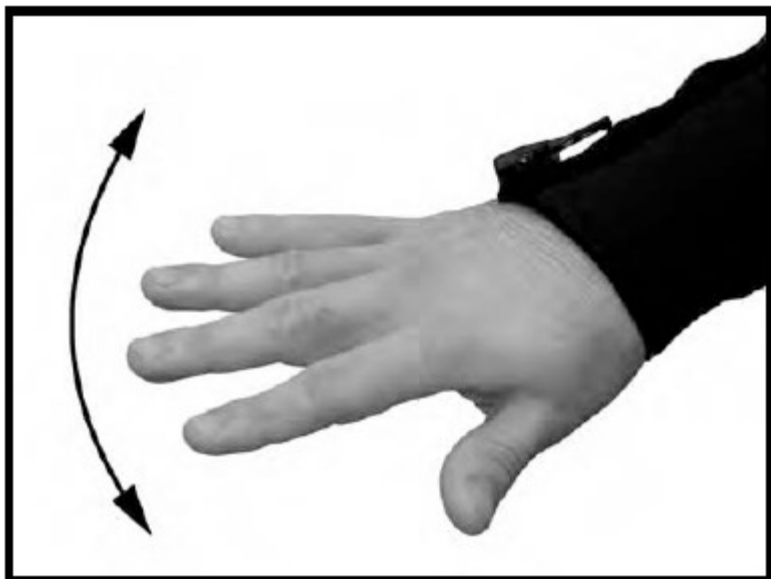
Alternate – One Hand



Common Hand Signals

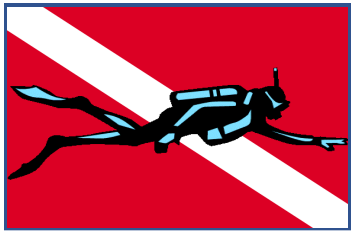


Distress or help me



Something is wrong.

Wiggle Hand – (Thumb and Little Finger Vertically) and point to area of problem.

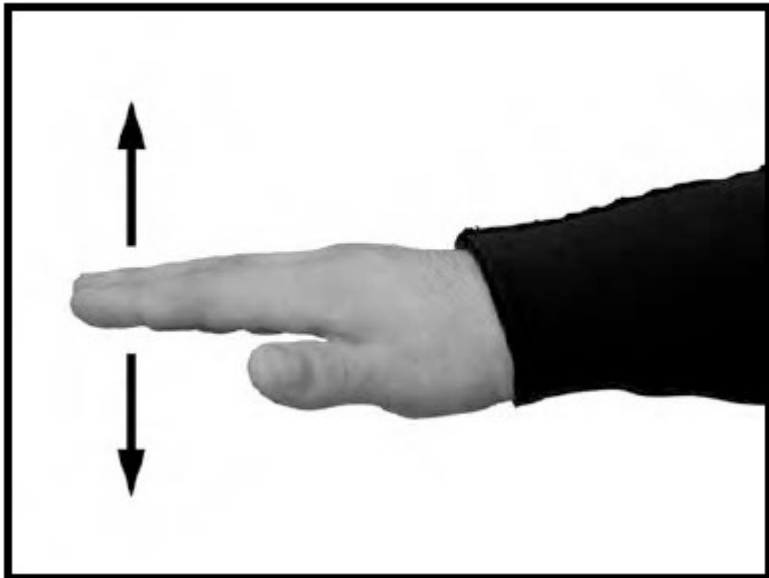


Common Hand Signals



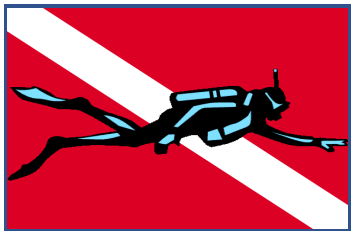
Level off at this depth.

With hand flat, palm down, fingers apart and thumb sticking out, move hand slowly back and forth horizontally.



Take it easy or slow down.

With hand flat, palm down, slowly flex hand up and down repeatedly.

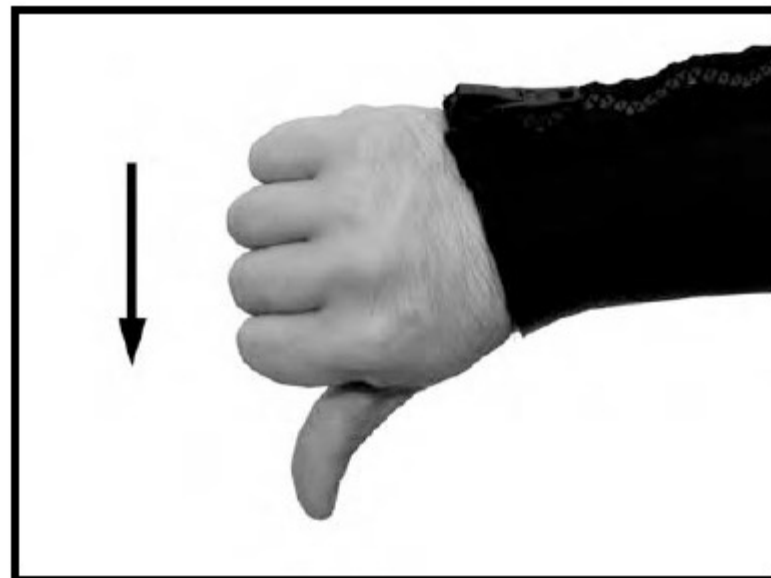


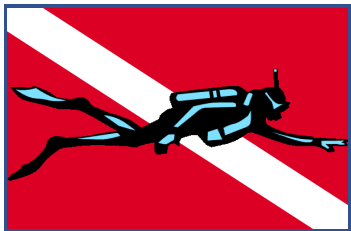
Common Hand Signals



Go up or I'm going up.

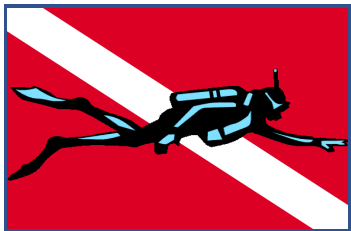
Go down or I'm going down.





Ensuring Consistent Signals.....





Common Hand Signals

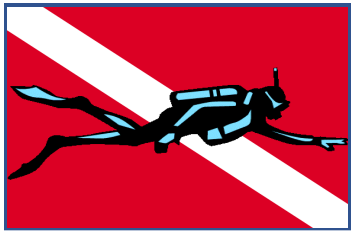


Stop, Or Wait Here.

Cramp

**Show Tight Fist then
point to Where**





Common Hand Signals



I'm low on air.

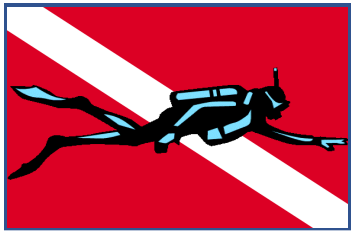
Make a clenched fist with one hand and move hand inward toward the chest.



I'm out of air.

With hand flat, fingers together, palm down, draw hand across the throat in a cutting motion.

Repeat for Urgency!!!



Common Hand Signals



Let's share air.

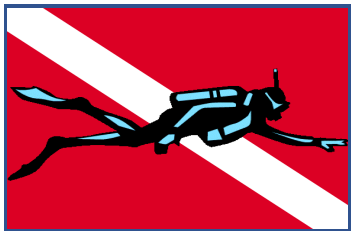
Using the fingers of the left hand, point towards the regulator or remove the regulator and point to the mouth.

Repeat for Urgency!!!



Danger

Make a clenched fist with one hand and extend arm in the direction of danger.

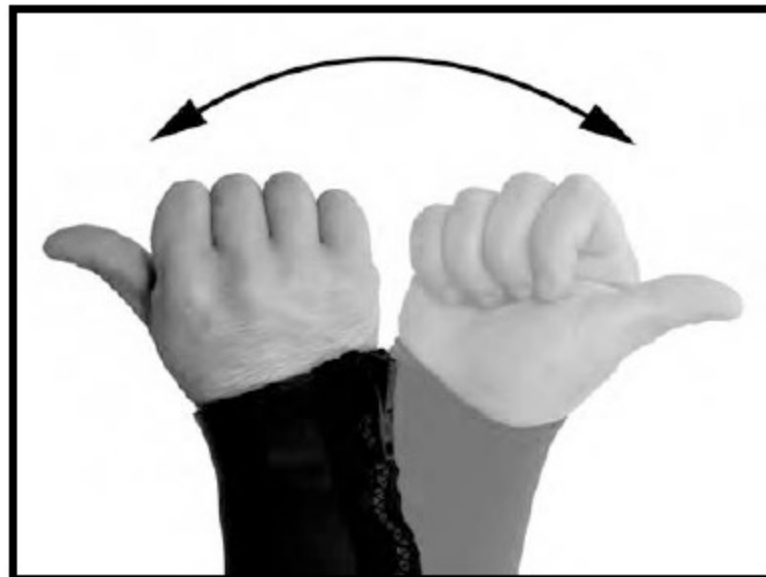


Common Hand Signals

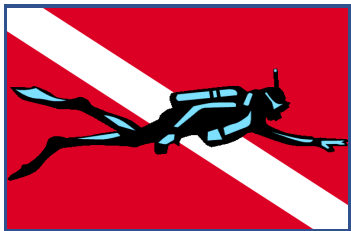
TVSC

Which direction?

Make a fist with one hand, thumb extended, and rotate the hand through 180 degrees several times to indicate confusion regarding the intended direction of travel.

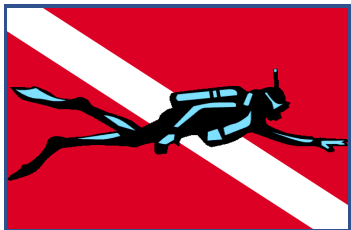


Go that way.



**Always have the Fallback
of the Slate.....**





Common Hand Signals



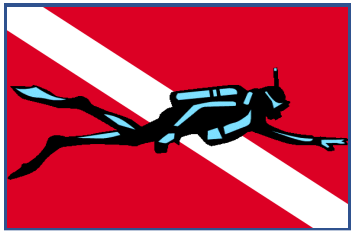
Get with your buddy.

Make fists with both hands, forefingers extended, and bring hands together.



Who will lead, who will follow.

Point at the diver who will lead and position that hand in front of the body. Point to the diver who will follow and then position that hand behind the other, indicating direction with both forefingers.



Common Hand Signals



Watch or look

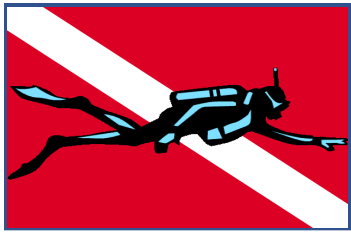
Place the tips of the forefinger and middle finger against the mask lens.

May be followed by another signal indicating direction in which to look or the person to watch.



Me or I

Point to yourself at chest height.

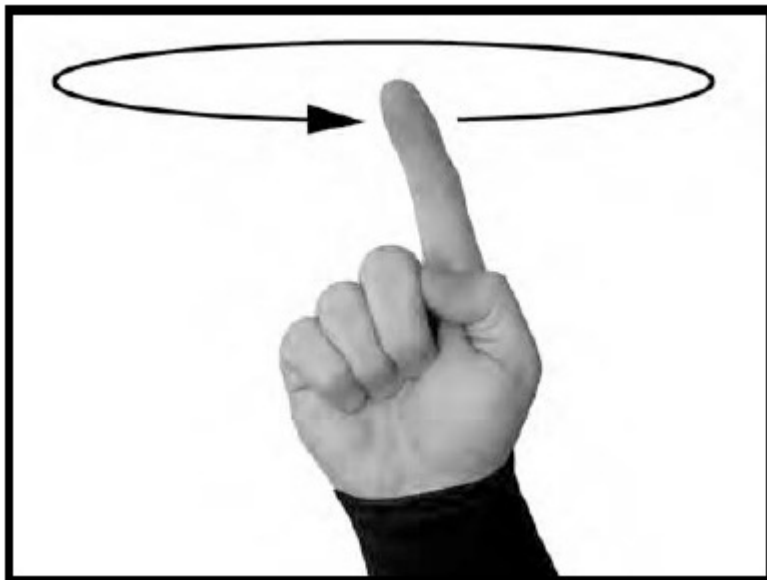


Common Hand Signals



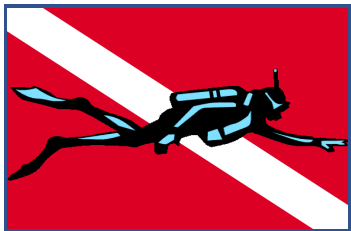
Under, over or around

With palm down, use hand motion to indicate intended route to go under, over or around an underwater formation.



Turn around.

Extend the forefinger of one hand vertically and rotate the hand in a circular movement.



Common Hand Signals

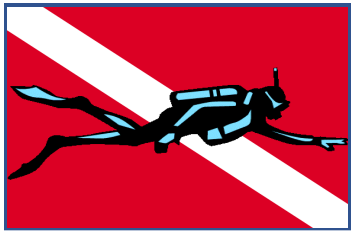


I Don't Feel Well.

Diver encircles front of body – head to torso.
Point to source of problem. May be given after
“Something Is Wrong” signal, and before “Going
Up / End Dive” signal.



New PADI Signal – July 2020



Common Hand Signals

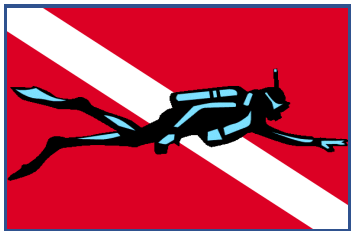


Ear(s) not clearing



I am cold.

Cross arms in front of chest, grab upper arms with opposite hands to indicate chilling.



Common Hand Signals



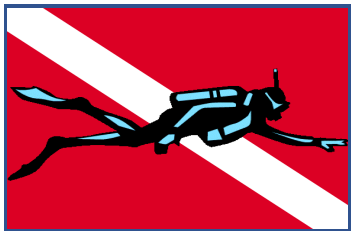
Danger??? Or Abort Dive???

Clench both fists and cross arms in front of the body.



Potential for Confusion-

- PADI chart shows As “Cold” Signal.
- RSTC shows as “Danger” Signal (with Clenched Fist)
- RSTC also shows as “Cold” Signal (with Flat/ Open Hands)
- Key West and other Caribbean areas – using as “Abort Dive” Signal



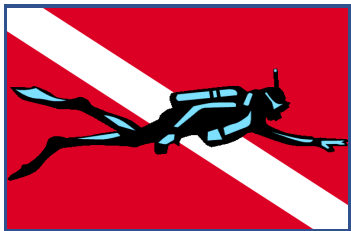
Common Hand Signals



I don't know.

Position hands out to each side of the body with palms facing up and shrug shoulders to indicate confusion.





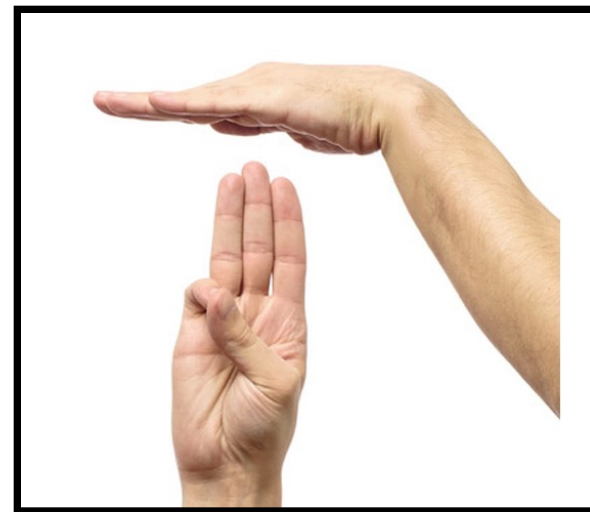
Common Hand Signals



Safety Stop

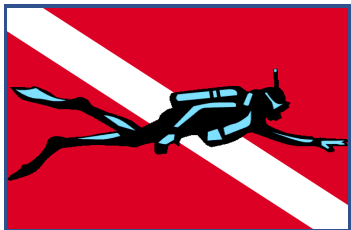
Hold the “Level Off” hand signal over your other hand with three fingers raised.

This is used to inform the dive team that you have reached the pre-designated safety stop depth and that everybody should level off for at least three minutes.



Leaks or Bubbles

With your hand facing up, hold your fingertips together, and then apart (do this rapidly)



Common Hand Signals



How Much Air Do You Have?

You tap two fingers lightly onto the palm of your opposite hand, with your palm facing upward or outward.

IN RESPONSE- your buddy will signal how much air he has by holding up fingers to represent the bar/psi shown on his gauge.

A half-tank is indicated by making a “T” sign with your hand.

ONE METHOD-

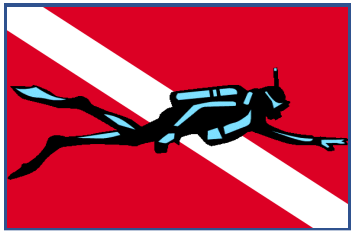
1- Indicate “1000s” with 1 or 2 fingers against your sleeve

2- Indicate “100s” in open water by opening and closing fingers to show amount.



ALTERNATE- Tap Your Computer.

Tap two fingers lightly onto your Computer Face (Wrist or Console) or hold your console up.



Sealife Signals



Shark



Turtle



Moray eel



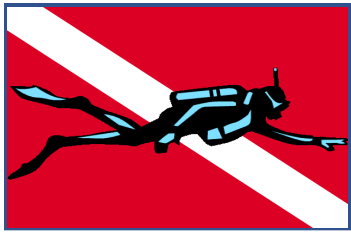
Lionfish



Crab/lobster
(indicate pincers)



Octopus
(indicate tentacles
with your fingers)



Sealife Signals

TVSC



Triggerfish

(indicate pulling a trigger)



Garden eels



Manta ray

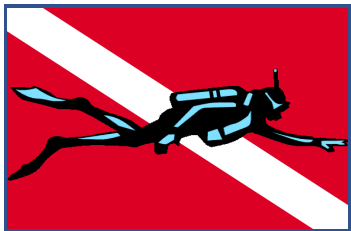


Scorpionfish



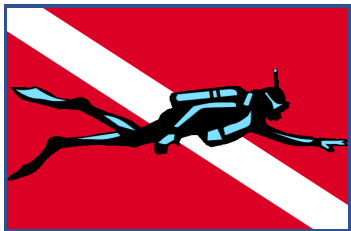
Barracuda

(indicate its stripes)



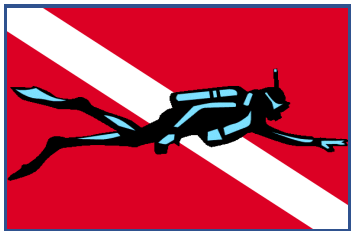
Signals Review /Test





Questions/Discussion





PADI (or Other) Manuals



when planning a
new buddy.



1. Stop, hold it, stay there



2. Something is wrong



OK? OK.



4. OK? OK. (glove on)



5. Distress, help



6. OK? OK. (on surface at distance)



7. OK? OK. (one hand occupied)



8. Danger



9. Go up, going up



10. Go down, going down



11. Low on air



12. Out of air



13. Buddy breathe or share air



14. Come here



15. Me, or watch me



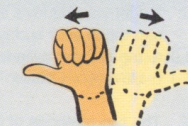
16. Under, over, or around



17. Level off, this depth



18. Go that way



19. Which direction?



20. Ears not clearing



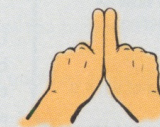
21. I am cold



22. Take it easy, slow down



23. Hold hands



24. Get with your buddy



25. You lead, I'll follow