

# My favourite setup for the GoPro Hero 9/10

by Matthias Lebo

In this article I'll share with you my favorite setup for the GoPro Hero 9 when it comes to filming underwater but the same setup would be equally productive for still images. In addition, if you have the GoPro Hero 10 it should work with the identical setup.



As you can see it is slightly bigger than just having your GoPro and the 30 metre housing but it will make your whole use of the GoPro Hero underwater a lot more versatile and it will also increase the quality of footage/images that you can get from this tiny little camera. This is my complete setup but you don't have to buy it all at once; the following is a list of the components in my order of priority for image improvements.

The first component is a handle/s and tray which will make it much easier to manoeuvre the camera around and keep it more stable. I really like this one from Backscatter because it's got dual handles which are nicely padded and they're very



comfortable to hold.

The second piece of kit that I want to talk about is one that I think is very important and that is the use of filters with your GoPro Hero 9.

You can use a single filter in front of your GoPro Hero but Backscatter has come up with a Flip Filter system. It's a simple adaptor which sits in front of the camera and provides two attachment points for different types of filters. Different densities of filters are needed depending on the depth that you want to use them at so it makes sense to have more than one filter and you can switch as you go deeper.

The Flip Filter system is very simple to use and the filters lock into place very easily but can be swung out of the way when not needed.



Another way to use the Flip Filter system is to have it like mine with one red filter for blue water or a magenta filter for the greenish water here in Switzerland.

The second attachment point on the Flip Filter system can take a +15 MACROMATE Mini macro lens. It just clicks in front of the lens and enables you to take decent macro shots.

If you want to have the variety to shoot wide angle and macro on your GoPro Hero 9 I'd highly recommend you use one of the slots for a red or magenta filter and the second for a macro.



While we're talking about macro I'd strongly recommend that you do get yourself some sort of a tripod for more stable footage. It's very difficult to get stable footage handheld when you're shooting macro so I recommend getting something like a Gorilla pod. I find this type of tripod ideal for this scenario because they're lightweight, inexpensive and easy to use. They are not designed to support heavy weights but this GoPro setup weighs very little underwater, even with lights.

And speaking of lights I'm a big fan of using additional light underwater. They are the most expensive of these accessories but they will make a significant difference to the quality of your output.

I have chosen Backscatter's Macro Wide 4300 lights and I like them because they're very small, easy to travel with and have a decent battery life



of around an hour. They've got different power settings and have a regular 85° beam angle for wide angle and mid shots but they've also got a macro mode so by the push of a button you can change to a very narrow beam which will help you isolate your subject from the background and in combination with the +15 MACROMATE Mini macro lens will enable you to make some really cool macro shots.

I choose to use two lights for versatile lighting and extra power but you will still get a significant improvement with just one light to begin with and then add an extra one when finances allow.

To mount the lights onto the tray I like the Lock Line arm system. They are easy to use with a system like this and can be adjusted easily to have your lights coming from different directions but they're stiff enough to not flop around in a stiff

current.

Backscatter is not sponsoring or paying me but sent me all this stuff to use and test it for this review. I'll have to send it back unfortunately but I am grateful to them for facilitating this.

**Matthias Lebo**

<https://www.youtube.com/c/matthiaslebo>

