

Backscatter Optical Snoot OS-3

by The Backscatter Team

At Backscatter, we know snoots. After the success of the Mini Flash series with its compact, easy-to-aim Optical Snoot OS-1, and the Atom Flash with its custom Optical Snoot OS-2, we set out to push the envelope further with our flagship strobe and video light combo Hybrid Flash.

The new Optical Snoot OS-3 takes full advantage of the Hybrid Flash's bright flash output, super fast recycle time, and long battery life, now expanding snoot photography from just macro, to fish portraits and even wide-angle snooted scenes.

The Optical Snoot OS-3 transforms the Hybrid Flash's powerful wide-angle beam into a precise, highly flexible lighting tool. Whether you're shooting tiny critters or dramatic larger subjects, the Optical Snoot OS-3 unlocks unmatched versatility, making the Hybrid Flash a true do-it-all strobe for any underwater scenario.

While Optical Snoot OS-3 is feature rich, it's also extremely easy to use. Aiming is effortless, thanks to the Hybrid Flash's powerful 1500-lumen white or red target light, delivering true "what-you-see-is-what-you-get" performance in any conditions.

The Optical Snoot OS-3 uses the same bayonet mounting system as the Hybrid Flash diffusers. Snap it on to instantly convert your wide-angle lighting powerhouse into a precision macro-lighting machine.

Why You Need A Snoot

The Hybrid Flash was engineered to be the



ultimate strobe for lighting big scenes, thanks to its powerful f40 output and super-wide, even, round beam. While you can shoot macro with the Hybrid Flash alone, its native wide coverage will often light both the subject and its surroundings.

That's where the Optical Snoot OS-3 comes in. By concentrating the Hybrid Flash's wide beam into a tight, controlled spotlight, the Optical Snoot OS-3 allows you to light only the subject—making distracting backgrounds effectively disappear. The result is a clean, dramatic, precision-lit macro image with every shot. Its advanced optics also deliver exceptionally efficient light transfer, making this our brightest and most flexible strobe-and-snoot combination to date.

Using a snoot lifts macro subjects off the background, making otherwise common or camouflaged subjects behind bland backgrounds



The Optical Snoot OS-3 narrows the Hybrid Flash's powerful wide beam into a tight, precision spot for macro work, while being versatile enough to light larger subjects like fish and wide-angle snooted scenes.

Sony a9 III | Sony 90mm Lens | 1/1,000 | ISO 250 | f14



look bold and stunning.

With three snoots now in the Backscatter lineup, each is designed for a specific type of shot. The Mini Flash 3 with the Optical Snoot OS-1 and the Atom Flash with the Optical Snoot OS-2 remain the easiest for macro and super-macro work. The



Without Optical Snoot OS-3



With Optical Snoot OS-3



The Hybrid Flash can take advantage of both its 1500 lumen white and red aiming lights through the snoot. Wherever the aiming light points, the flash will fire in the exact same spot.

close minimum working distance of 3.7 inches (95mm) is ideal for positioning the snoot up close on the smallest subjects.

For subjects the size of a fist or bigger the Mini Flash and Atom Flash snoots start to reach the end of their ideal usable range. That's where the Hybrid Flash Optical Snoot OS-3 comes in.

With a longer minimum working distance of 7.8 inches (200 mm) and the Hybrid Flash's powerful f40 output behind it, the Optical Snoot OS-3 can light bigger subjects from

farther away, making it perfect for bigger macro subjects, fish portraits, and even wide-angle snooted scenes.

The Hybrid Flash also features a red focus light that works seamlessly through the snoot. The red beam is ideal for night dives and sensitive subjects—like seahorses—that often shy away from bright white lights. With the red light, even the most skittish subjects can be captured, opening up even more opportunities and making snooting even easier.

The Optical Snoot OS-3 includes two interchangeable rotating aperture



The Optical Snoot OS-3 is perfect for shooting everything from small macro critters to larger subjects like fish. The Hybrid Flash's f40 output and the snoot's longer working distance make it easy to light bigger subjects from farther away.

discs—one with circular apertures and one with ovals, allowing the snoot light to be precisely customized based on the shape and size of the subject. Each disc provides six beam sizes for precise control. The Optical Snoot OS-3 can be shot without a disc for the most light coverage, perfect for bigger subjects or wide-angle snooting. Depending on distance, the beam can be razor-sharp for strong, dramatic light falloff or feathered for a softer edge and more natural look.

Each Aperture Disc locks firmly into place and can be swapped in seconds underwater. Adjusting beam





The Backscatter Color Filter System is perfect for bold backlighting and sidelighting, and the Optical Snoot OS-3's built-in filter slot makes using them quick and effortless.

size is as simple as rolling the disc with your thumb for quick, easy changes. And just like the Mini Flash 3 and Atom Flash Snoots, the front of the Optical Snoot OS-3 independently rotates to change the angle of the beam—ideal for aligning light on longer subjects such as nudibranchs and shrimp without needing to reposition the flash itself.

The Hybrid Flash's Remote Mode

also makes creative lighting easier than before. You can trigger a remote, off-camera Hybrid Flash and adjust power levels completely wirelessly—without reaching over your subject, stirring up sand or silt, or scaring anything away.

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