

10Bar Snoots Review

By Erin Quigley



(Far left) 10Bar Snoot Set with Aiming Laser for Inon Z- 240 & D-2000 Strobes

(Left) 10Bar Snoot Set for Sea&Sea YS- D1 and YS- D2 Strobes

Although I'm a seasoned underwater photographer, I'm relatively new to snooting. On a recent trip to Lembeh, I brought along the 10Bar Snoot with Laser Aiming Light for my YS-D1. Setup was beyond easy; install three LR 44 batteries and snap the base onto the front of the YS-D1. It also fits the newer YS-D2. Even as a snoot novice, I was able to successfully aim and shoot it without assistance.

My initial fears that the laser pointer might injure or alarm the critters disappeared when they appeared not to notice it at all. In fact, they ignored the laser completely, while my red or white focus light caused many critters to turn away or hide. Because you can't see whatever's directly under the intense red dot of the laser, it's a good idea to aim it just to the side of where you want to focus. The laser turns off as you fire, so it's never visible in the shot.

The 10Bar Snoot size can be varied by using different widths of screw-on nozzle segments, and the distance between the snoot and pointer is adjustable via a small external wheel. Getting





snooted shots was MUCH easier to accomplish with the help of the laser pointer.

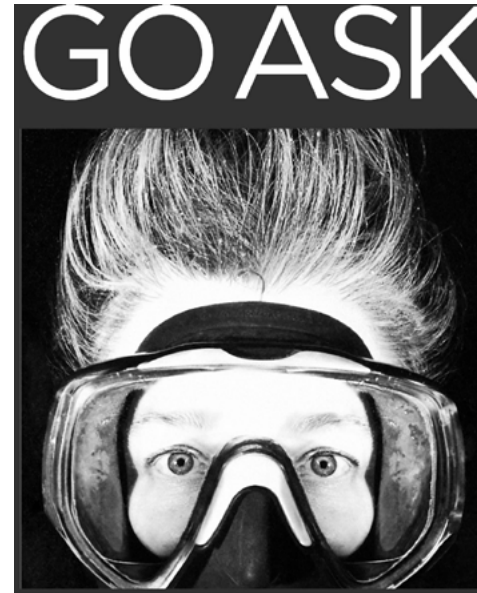
My only complaints, and they're really nitpicks, are that the snoot arrives without instructions of any kind, and it could use an accompanying tool for opening and closing the battery compartment. A quarter or other coin does the job, but strips the anodizing from the metal. The separate screw-on nozzle segments are a little awkward - it would be better if they somehow telescoped into the base, and although the batteries are cheap and easy to travel with, they had to be replaced every ten or twelve dives, even though

I turned off the laser when it wasn't in use.

In short, the 10Bar Snoot with laser pointer is a big winner. It was so popular on my trip that another guest bought it from me to use for the rest of her vacation, and I ordered a replacement as soon as I returned home.

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10Bar snoots are available from:
www.backscatter.com



Erin Quigley is an Adobe ACE certified digital imaging consultant specializing in customized workflows and editing strategies using Adobe Photoshop and Lightroom. She is an award-winning underwater photographer and video editor, and creator of GoAskErin.com, which provides one-on-one instruction, custom video tutorials, and Photoshop and Lightroom resources specifically developed for underwater shooters.

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