

From the GUE Standards and Procedures, 2006 ver. 4  
(see [www.GUE.com](http://www.GUE.com) for the entire document)

#### 2.1.2.10 Equipment Requirements (Fundamentals Course)

Each student should have, and be familiar with, all of the following required equipment:

1. Tanks/Cylinders: Students may use dual tanks/cylinders connected with a dual-outlet isolator manifold, which allows for the use of two first-stages. Students may also use a single tank/cylinder with a K-, H-, or Y-valve.
2. Regulators: One of the second-stages must be on a 5- to 7-foot/1.5- to 2-meter hose. One of the first-stages must supply a pressure gauge and provide inflation for a dry suit (where applicable).
3. Backplate System: A rigid and flat platform of metal construction with minimal padding, held to a diver by one continuous piece of nylon webbing. This webbing should be adjustable through the plate and should use a buckle to secure the system to the waist. A crotch strap attached to the lower end of this platform and looped through the waistband would prevent the system from riding up a diver's back. A knife should be secured to the waist on the left webbing tab. This webbing should support five D-rings; the first should be placed on the left hip, the second should be placed in line with a diver's right collarbone, the third should be placed in line with the diver's left collarbone, and the fourth and fifth should be affixed to the crotch strap to use while scooting or towing/stowing gear. The harness below the diver's arms should have small restrictive bands to allow for the placement of reserve lights. The system should retain a minimalist approach, with no unnecessary components.
4. Buoyancy Compensation Device: A diver's buoyancy compensation device should be back-mounted and minimalist in nature. It should come free of extraneous strings, tabs, and other material. There should be no restrictive bands or "bungee" of any sort affixed to the buoyancy cell. In addition, diver lift should not exceed 50 lbs. for a single tank and 80 lbs. for double tanks. Wing size and shape should be appropriate to the cylinder size(s) employed for training.
5. At least one time/depth-measuring device.
6. Mask and fins: Mask should be low-volume; fins should be rigid, non-split.
7. At least one cutting device.
8. Wet notes.
9. One spool with 100 feet/30 meters of line per diver.
10. At least one surface-marker buoy per diver.
11. Exposure suit appropriate for the duration of exposure.
- \* 12. Double cylinders with isolation manifold, and appropriately sized double tank buoyancy compensation device.
- \* 13. One primary light: A primary light should be minimalist in design; its power source should consist of a rechargeable battery pack residing in a canister powering an external light head via a light cord. Primary lights should produce the equivalent output of a 50-watt halogen/10-watt HID lighting or greater.
- \* 14. Two reserve lights: Reserve lights should be non-rechargeable with a minimum of protrusions and a single attachment at its rear. The light should be activated by twisting the front bezel toward the body, deactivated by turning it away from the body.

\* Required equipment 12 through 14 applies only to students seeking admittance into Tech or Cave training (ie. a "Tech" Fundamentals endorsement if he/she meets the standards described in 2.1.2.9).

Prior to the commencement of class, students should consult with a GUE representative (preferably their instructor) to verify equipment requirements. Whether or not a piece of equipment fulfills GUE's equipment requirement remains at the discretion of GUE and its instructor representatives. Participants are responsible for providing all equipment or for making provisions to secure the use of necessary equipment before the start of the course. In general, it is better for the student to learn while using his or her own equipment. However, students should exercise caution before purchasing new equipment to avoid acquiring substandard equipment. Please contact a GUE representative prior to making any purchases. Information about recommended equipment can be obtained from the "equipment considerations" section of GUE's website.