

## BETA Shell™ 5 Series User Manual



Thank you for purchasing one of our **BETA Shell™** protective cases!

Your BETA Shell™ case is intentionally designed to be simple to use, yet provide superb protection to your stored video & photo gear. From the experiences we have earned in our travels we have learned that light is right and unnecessary complexity is a liability – these two core philosophies are what have guided our BETA Shell™ case design and development.

We design, manufacture, and test all our cases with the intent to exceed your expectations. Every component in each of our BETA Shell™ cases are made in the U.S.A. and each Beta Shell™ case is fabricated at our Washington state facility where we can closely monitor & demand excellent production quality.

All our Beta Shell™ protective cases come with our unconditional Bomb-Proof Guarantee - If you are not satisfied with your Beta Shell™ case for any reason, we offer a 30 day “no questions asked” return policy. Simply return the unused Beta Shell™ case to us and we will refund the original purchase price. In addition, all our cases have a lifetime guarantee against manufacturing defects. Just send the case back to us and we will repair or replace your case at no additional charge. \*

Included with every Beta Shell™ Series 5 case are the following items:

- 1) **Beta Shell™ Series 5** protective case
- 2) One **Fit & Trim Kit** – includes **2 Fit Disks**, **2 Trim Decals**, **1 Fit & Trim Guide**
- 3) Two Black 12mm thick **Foam Fitting Disks w/ Decal Color Code** for Top Lid
- 4) Two **Silica Gel Packs**
- 5) Two **Split Rings** (for optional strap attachment)
- 6) **User’s Manual** (this document)

If one of the above listed item(s) is missing. Please email us at [sales@betashell.com](mailto:sales@betashell.com)

Please read this product manual to get the most out of your Beta Shell™ case!

*\* Bomb-Proof Guarantee is honored by manufacturer to individual U.S. based customers. For international customers our Bomb-Proof Guarantee may or may not be honored by respective Beta Shell™ distributors. We reserve the right to charge for return shipping costs in some situations. We reserve the right to ask for payment for repairs if product was misused or damaged beyond reasonable repair. Please visit the Warranty section of our website @ <http://www.betashell.com/Terms.asp> to learn more.*

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### → **Product Liability and Disclaimer – Please Read** ←

**It is your responsibility to protect your equipment.** The user shall determine the suitability of this product prior for his or her use, and shall assume all risk of liability in connection with that use. Under no circumstance will Mogomoto Prototype LLC be held responsible for damage to equipment arising from the use of this product. Neither Mogomoto Prototype LLC, it’s suppliers, subcontractors, dealers or agents are liable for any loss, injury, or damage whatsoever arising from the use of this product. Modifications to your Beta Shell™ protective case will void the warranty. Never expose to excessive heat or petroleum based solvents. Never use this case to carry or protect objects other than photo or video equipment. Beta Shell™ cases are designed to be water-proof under test conditions. Water penetration will occur if lid is not properly closed, set, worn, or is damaged. Normal wear and tear will compromise the function of this product. Beta Shell™ cases are protected under U.S. patent right laws. Beta Shell™ cases are Patent Pending.

## 1. Setting up your Beta Shell™ Case

To open the case simply rotate the **Top Lid** in the counter-clockwise direction – just as you would open a water bottle. Note the icons on the lid indicating the rotational directions to *open* and *close* your case. Also take note of the **Sealing Decal** indicating directions for opening & closing the case. For a secure seal there is no need to over-tighten the lid closed. For a water-proof seal please read section 2 below.

Place your object into the case. If it is an optical lens, then the front of the lens (lens cap end) should be rested against the foam found at the bottom of the case. We will use a photo optic as an example below. The back end of the interchangeable lens (mounting end) should point up and have a storage **end cap**. The back end cap should not extend beyond the plane of the top surface of the open lens case (Fig. 1). If back of lens extends past the rim of case without the use of **Foam Fitting Disks** we recommend using a larger Beta Shell™ case size.

**An ideal fit is achieved when the top most object surface is 10 – 25mm (.5 – 1.0 inch) below the top surface of the open case rim.**



Figure. 1 – Checking the fit inside Beta Shell™ case. Correct fit is on the right side (Fit Disk with Pull Tab shown).

- If the top most surface of your object is more than 25mm below the top surface of the case, then...

Use the supplied 99mm black **Foam Fitting Disks** to achieve the correct fit to the object. When using the **Foam Fitting Disk(s)** to create a tighter fit, carefully remove the **Lower Memory Foam** at the bottom of the case – the **Lower Memory Foam** is not attached to the case and should pull right out. You should now see the plastic bottom of the lens case. Place the **Foam Fitting Disk(s)** at the bottom of the case, and then replace the **Lower Memory Foam** such that it sits on top **Foam Fitting Disk(s)**. Re-insert the object and check fit again as described above in Figure 1.

- If the top most surface of your object is still more than 25mm below the top surface of the open lens case even with the use of **Foam Fitting Disks**, then...

Use additional **Foam Fitting Disks** (available on our website), or order the next shorter length of Beta Shell™ case. As long as the correct fit is achieved using **Foam Fitting Disks**, a smaller object can be adequately stored in an oversized Beta Shell™ case. With the use of **Foam Fitting Disks** a user can achieve the correct fit for multiple object using the same Beta Shell™ case. Many user choose to carry a single large case that can be adjusted with the use of the **Foam Fitting Disks** to accommodate swapping back and forth between a larger & smaller objects.

- If the top most surface of your object extends past the top surface of the open case without the use of **Foam Fitting Disks**, then...

We suggest you order the next larger size of Beta Shell™ case.

Now, with the correct fit achieved, we recommend you take the time to modify the included **Fit & Trim Kit** for a custom fit to your object. A custom fit is not required, but it will provide substantially increased protection to your object if used correctly. We highly recommend using the **Fit & Trim Kit** if your object has an irregular shape or you demand high impact protection. Please read and use the included **Fit & Trim Kit Guide** now.

To close your case, gently press the object down to “set” its location – then quickly close the **Top Lid** by aligning the two white dots on the **Sealing Decal** and rotating the lid clock-wise. You should feel slight resistance as the Memory foam compresses & the **O-ring** creates a seal. The **Top Lid** is intentionally designed to close in a snug manner. For a full water-proof seal rotate the **Top Lid** to a hard stop in the clock-wise direction to the **Max Seal** mark. If only a quick dust & water-resistant seal is required – rotate the **Top Lid** to the **Mid Seal** mark (Figure 2).



Figure 2: Sealing decal image

To check the item is properly secured in the case, gently wiggle the case. *You should not feel the object move significantly inside the case.* If you can feel the object move around significantly inside the case, remove the object from the case and use the **Foam Fitting Disks** to create a tighter fit. If it takes excessive force to close the **Top Lid**, or the **Top Lid** memory foam feels like it might be damaged from an overly tight fit, then remove a **Foam Fitting Disk** from the case to create looser fit. **Note – Foam Fitting Disks** can be carefully trimmed to a half thickness with a sharp blade to provide a precise fit.

If you plan on using your Beta Shell™ lens case in environments where dramatic changes in ambient temperatures occur – we strongly recommend placing a moisture absorbing **Silica Gel Pack** at the bottom of your case. Silica gel is a simple material that will absorb moisture generated from condensation on your gear and case (additional silica gel packs can be purchased on our website). Please remember that all **Silica Gel Packs** become saturated over time and need to be replaced. Also, remember any moisture that enters your case (such as rain or snow) will remain inside a sealed Beta Shell™ case. **User's Tip** - Keep unused gel packs in an air-sealed bag to extend the life of silica gel packs.

## 2. Ensuring a Water-Proof Seal

The primary design goal of your Beta Shell™ case is to protect your gear from environmental conditions. To guarantee excellent protection we intentionally designed the **Top Lid** to close in a snug manner to the **Max Seal** condition. With the **Top Lid** closed to the **Max Seal** marker on the **Sealing Decal** you can expect your case to remain absolutely water-proof and closed under heavy use. Some users may find it a little difficult to open the **Top Lid** from the **Max Seal** condition. In addition, it is normal for the case **Top Lid** to become a little “hard to open” with barometric changes and material expansion. For this reason we designed the “nose” feature on the **Top Lid** to aid the user in freeing a tight **Top Lid**. Simply use the edge of a table to gain leverage over the **Top Lid** and then with both hands rotate the **Body** of the case as indicated by the **Sealing Decal** (Figure 3).

If your case **Top Lid** begins to feel a little to hard to close or open it may be time to clean & lube the sealing **O-ring** with a light oil (use bike chain lube, light water-proof grease, or even vegetable oil). It is very important to keep the **O-ring** seal and sealing surfaces clean.



Figure 3: Use a rigid straight edge such as the edge of a table to tightly close Lid.

## 3. The Bungee Case Strap and Optional Strap Attachment

Our protective case design includes a simple strap to help the user securely handle the case. Our simple **Bungee Strap** is intended to aid you in grabbing your Beta Shell™ when the conditions get slick such as in rain or snow. When not in use, the **Bungee Strap** can be stored around the base of the lens case body (Fig. 4). In addition, the **Bungee Strap** can easily be replaced or removed by the user. All our Beta Shell™ cases also come with **Split Rings** that can be mounted by the user to facilitate attaching an aftermarket shoulder strap to the case (excellent OP/Tech straps can be purchase on our website). By using the supplied **Split Rings** and the **Bungee Strap** together a user can Tether the **Top Lid** and allow a secure handle. This configuration keeps the **Top Lid** attached to the case & in addition provides a good “handle” to the case (Figure 4).



Figures 4: Optional strap attachment, storing the Bungee Strap, & the Tether strap configuration.

#### 4. Top Lid Decal Color

Included with your BETA Shell™ protective case are **Top Lid Color Decals**. These decals are designed to be trimmed and applied to the Top Lid by a user of multiple BETA Shell™ cases. By associating a unique color decal to an individual piece of gear, the user can quickly determine what is stored in each BETA Shell™ case (i.e. Orange = 70-200mm lens, Pink = point & shoot camera, Green = compact video camera, etc...)



Figure 5: Use included Top Lid Decals to identify various BETA Shell™ cases.

#### 5. Care and Maintenance

Your Beta Shell™ protective case is designed to be essentially maintenance free. There are only two things to do to keep your case functioning like new – 1) keep the inside clean, and 2) keep the **O-ring** and **Sealing surfaces** clean. Remember that any dirt, dust, or substance that gets inside your Beta Shell™ case can end up on or inside your gear! If moisture collects inside your case, leave it open to dry out.

To clean the outside of your case simply wipe off with a damp cloth and let dry. Never use solvents (such as gasoline or acetone) on any part of your case – ABS polymers and solvents do not mix well! To clean the internal foam gently wipe down the foam surfaces with a wet towel or mild soap. Natural yellowing of the memory foam over time is normal and this will not damage your gear. Remember, the lower foam disk can be removed while the lid foam and neoprene liner are not removable. All memory foam can be replaced if it is re-glued to the ABS shell (email us for how to replace memory foam). Compressed air also works well to remove dust and dirt imbedded in the Neoprene liner or memory foam. Leave the case open and let the inside of your Beta Shell™ dry completely before restoring anything inside. Finally, keep the surface of the **O-ring Seal** clean. Using the corner of a wet towel, gently wipe dirt and dust off the O-ring seal surface – remember this seal is what keeps water and dust out. Once a year, use a Q-Tip style cotton swab to apply a Teflon or Silicon based lubricant (such as bike chain lube) to the surface of the O-ring seal.

If you plan to keep a gear stored inside a Beta Shell™ case for a long period make sure there is not any excessive moisture trapped inside the case and use a **fresh Silica Gel Pack** inside the case prior to long term storage.

This product manual is not intended to cover all your questions regarding our Beta Shell™ cases. We encourage product feedback, questions, and comments – just e-mail, call, or write to us.