Critical Mass (MASS)

A Cultural Pressure Index on Base

Abstract

Critical Mass (MASS) is a long-lived experimental token designed to observe collective attention and cultural pressure over time. Unlike meme coins, governance tokens, or financial instruments, MASS functions as a passive on-chain signal. It does not prescribe behavior, promise outcomes, or optimize for speculation. Its purpose is to exist as an artifact whose meaning emerges through persistence, restraint, and interpretation.

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1. Motivation

Digital culture regularly reaches moments of heightened coordination, tension, and shared focus. Most on-chain instruments attempt to monetize or steer these moments. Critical Mass was created to explore the opposite question: can a token exist purely to observe when such thresholds are reached?

MASS is motivated by curiosity, not extraction. It is an experiment in whether time, context, and restraint can create meaning without incentives.

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2. Design Philosophy

Critical Mass is guided by four principles:

1. Observation over instruction

   The token does not tell participants what to do.

2. Meaning before market

Context precedes liquidity, promotion, or price.

3. Restraint over reaction

No changes are made in response to hype or short-term optics.

4. Longevity over velocity

Decisions are evaluated on a multi-year horizon.

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3. What MASS Is / Is Not

MASS is:

- A passive cultural index
- A long-lived experiment
- An interpretive artifact

MASS is not:

- A meme coin
- Governance
- A utility token
- A security or promise
- A roadmap-driven product

Holding MASS grants no rights, yield, or control.

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4. Token Architecture

- Network: Base
- Standard: ERC-20
- Supply: Fixed at deployment
- Decimals: 18

- Minting: Disabled
- Privileges: None over holders

The contract is intentionally minimal to reduce complexity and unintended incentives.

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5. Liquidity & Market Structure

Liquidity exists to allow basic price discovery, not aggressive capitalization. Liquidity locking is used as a trust signal rather than a growth mechanism.

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6. Governance

Critical Mass does not implement governance. Silence and inaction are considered valid outcomes.

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7. Risks

- The token may never gain liquidity or visibility
- Interpretations may remain ambiguous
- The experiment may fail to produce insight

These risks are accepted by design.

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8. Conclusion

Critical Mass exists to test whether an on-chain artifact can retain meaning without direction. It is an experiment in observation.