

HOW TO CHARGE A BATTERY



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Steps to Properly Charge a Discharged Battery

These are instructions for serviceable batteries or AGM (dry) batteries, not maintenance free batteries. If you have a maintenance free battery we do not recommend more than a surface charge.

1. Disconnect battery
2. Open the caps for each cell and check that the water levels are at the collar. If any are low you must fill them with drinkable water before charging. You do not need to add additional acid to the battery.
3. Leave the caps open and resting on the fill holes as the process of charging requires the battery to breathe.
4. Using a battery brush, clean the terminals to ensure good contact with the charger.
5. Attach your manual charger to the battery at the 6-10 amp setting and start charging the battery. After 4-5 hours check each cell for gentle bubbling. This ensures that every cell is taking a charge. If one cell is not bubbling the charger may not be able to recover the battery. **Once you have started charging the battery DO NOT remove or turn off the charger for 24 hours. If you do remove the charger, you must restart your 24 hours of charging. It takes 24 hours of non-stop charging for the chemical reaction to occur that will actually charge a battery.**
6. At the end of the 24 hours if all cells were bubbling your battery should be fully charged.

Tools Required

- Manual Battery Charger
- Drinkable water
- Screwdriver/mini pry bar
- Battery terminal brush

WHY AN AUTOMATIC CHARGER WILL NOT CHANGE A DISCHARGED BATTERY

Automatic chargers are designed to provide a surface charge. This is a similar charge that driving your car can provide a battery. When your battery has discharged, it requires a deeper charge that only time can achieve. Since automatic chargers are designed to shut off 'automatically' once a surface charge is achieved, it will not charge long enough for the required chemical reaction to occur.

Any Questions throughout this process,
please feel free to give us a call!

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