

# Charging a Battery

Whether it's a need to charge or maintain the power of a battery, or the need for an inverter to convert low voltage DC power to higher voltage AC power, Exide's Power Central Program provides the solution.

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Certain precautions must be observed during the charging procedure:

1. Wear Safety goggles or glasses when charging a battery.
2. Never recharge batteries except in a clean, well ventilated space.
3. Never allow smoking, welding, or open flames in or around the area. Batteries give off explosive gasses when charging and serious injuries can occur.
4. Use only cables and clamps which are well insulated and in good condition to make connections between batteries and chargers. Keep wrenches, pliers, and screwdrivers away from battery terminals.
5. Make connections between batteries and the charger and disconnect only when the charger switch is in the OFF position and, preferably, when the charger main supply cable is withdrawn from the socket. Make sure the positive (usually red in color) charger clamp is attached to the positive terminal of the battery and the negative (usually black in color) charger clamp to the negative terminal of the battery.
6. Keep battery vent caps in position during recharge.
7. If batteries need water additions to re-level electrolyte, do not add water before starting the recharge unless level is below the plates. Electrolyte volume expands during recharge and excess may flood over battery covers, causing damage to cables, clamps, racks and floors. Add water 2 to 3 hours before terminating the recharge. Do not charge a frozen battery. Allow the battery to come to 60° F before placing it on charge.
8. Read and understand the charger manufacturer's operating instructions.
9. Some modern chargers incorporate electronic switches in the circuit, which will not operate if the battery does not exceed the trigger voltage. This can create an appearance that a very deeply discharged battery will not accept a charge. The manufacturer's instructions will give the method of overriding the electronic switch.
10. Other chargers incorporate thermally operated fuses, which might intermittently cycle on and off if the battery initially accepts maximum output current for an extended period. The appearance of an intermittent charge acceptance can be confusing.
11. Dry battery containers and covers, clean terminals, and securely refit vent caps at the end of battery charge and testing, before returning batteries to stock or fitting to vehicles.