



## How to Charge a Battery

Charging a battery seems pretty straightforward. Your battery is low, you recharge it, and voila, problem solved. But things are not always quite so easy. Technological advances in the battery industry have made batteries last longer than ever, but their recharging capabilities may not be so simple.



The best way to charge a battery depends on what the battery is being used, and whether it is a starter battery or deep cycle battery. For instance, you should avoid deeply discharging a starter battery. Although it can be topped off, doing so will ultimately shorten its lifespan significantly. Car batteries are a good example of this, but that doesn't mean you cannot recharge them should they go completely dead.

If you ever find yourself in this situation, the best course of action is to apply a trickle charger, which will slowly return the battery to a full charge. Slow charging like this is superior to a quick surge charge, as the battery will hold the charge much longer.



Deep cycle batteries on the other hand will require regular, complete discharges to avoid a memory effect from building up, which limits how much charge can be applied to the battery in the future. The same rules apply to charging, however, a slow, constant current is the best means of recharging. Other overarching rules to battery charging also apply, such as the fact that you want to keep the battery in a cool location to prevent overheating and

damage.

In order to get the most out of your batteries, keep in mind how they were designed to be used, and have an optimal charger available when you need it. Proper charging and discharging practices will ensure that you are always getting the most out of your hardware.

Visit our webpage for a full line of chargers: [www.batterysystems.net](http://www.batterysystems.net)