Lithium-Ion Battery *Safety*



Many of the devices we use every day are powered by lithium-ion batteries. Protect yourself and your loved ones from the fire and explosion hazards they can pose if used improperly.

Lithium-ion (Li-ion) batteries power everything from smartphones and laptops to scooters and electric vehicles. They have a very high energy density, meaning that they pack a lot of power into a small device. If lithium-ion batteries are misused, or if they are defective, that power can cause a fire or explosion.

Before You Buy

- Purchase only devices that are listed by a nationally recognized testing laboratory such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL). Look for the lab's mark on the packaging and device.
- Be sure you have working smoke alarms installed on every level of your home and a practiced home escape plan that includes two ways out.

Storage

- Read and follow follow the manufacturer's storage instructions.
- Store lithium-ion batteries and the devices they power at room temperature whenever possible. Don't leave them in a hot car, in direct sunlight, or in freezing temperatures.
- Keep these lithium-Ion batteries away from combustible materials.
- Store scooters and e-bikes outdoors if possible. If you must store them indoors, keep them away from doors, windows, and stairways. Always keep these routes clear so you can escape and emergency personnel can enter.

Charging

- Read and follow the manufacturer's charging instructions.
- Always use the manufacturer's battery, cord, and power adapter made specifically for the device. Aftermarket and generic accessories have been linked

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to serious Li-ion battery fires.

- Plug the charger directly into a wall outlet, not a power strip or extension cord.
- Don't leave a device unattended while charging. Disconnect the charger when the device is fully charged: do not overcharge the device.
- Charge devices on a hard, stable surface — never on a bed, couch, or pillow.

Use

- Read and follow the manufacturer's instructions for use.
- Use the battery designed for your device.
- Stop using the battery if it's damaged.
- Stop using the battery if you notice an unusual odor, change in color, change in shape, leaking, or odd noises. If you can do so safely, move the device away from anything that can burn and call your local fire department.

Disposal

- Do not discard lithium-ion batteries in the trash. Recycling is the best option.
- Find a recycling location at *www.call2recycle.org/locator/*.

Lithium-Ion Batteries are Everywhere!

- Bluetooth Headsets and Headphones
- Cell Phones
- Computer Peripherals
- Digital Cameras
- EReaders
- Game Controllers
- Laptops, tablets
- Watches
- Smoke/Fire/Carbon Monoxide Alarms
- Surveillance and alarm systems
- Electric vehicles
- Mobility scooters
- Ebikes and scooters

