

Frequently Asked Questions

Carbon Zinc Batteries

1. What is the difference between Super Heavy-Duty and Alkaline batteries?

These batteries have different chemicals systems. In general, Alkaline batteries are more powerful and will last longer in high drain devices. Super Heavy-duty (SHD) batteries are better suited for low drain applications and are less expensive to purchase.

2. Why doesn't my flashlight work well in cold weather?

Cold temperatures cause the chemical reactions within the battery to slow down. This negatively affects the batteries performance. When the battery warms to room temperatures, the normal characteristics of the battery will return.

3. Is it a good idea to store batteries in a refrigerator or freezer?

The theory behind this practice is that the cold temperatures will slow down the chemical reactions within the battery during storage. However, Carbon Zinc batteries have a shelf life of five years and storage at cold temperatures is not necessary or recommended.

4. Why is mixing batteries a problem?

Mixing batteries of different chemistries (Alkaline & SHD) in a device causes an imbalance in capacities. As the weakest battery becomes exhausted, it will be force discharged by the stronger batteries. Batteries that are forced discharged have an increased possibility of leaking. This same problem can occur when mixing fresh and used batteries in a device.

5. Is it bad to carry batteries loose in a purse or pockets?

Batteries can be short-circuited by metal items such as coins, keys, paperclips etc. A battery that is subjected to a short circuit can become very hot.

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6. Can batteries be recharged?

Only batteries that are labeled as rechargeable should be placed in a charger. Attempting to recharge batteries not designed for this purpose greatly increases the potential of leakage.

7. How long will my batteries last?

There are several factors that impact the length of service that batteries will provide. The most important aspect is the rate at which the device consumes power. A very high drain device like a digital camera will deplete a battery much quicker than a low drain device like a clock. Other factors affecting performance include the battery chemistry, temperature conditions and usage patterns (continuous or intermittent).

8. What is the difference between General Purpose (GP) and Super Heavy Duty (SHD)?

Both batteries are carbon zinc chemistry systems. However, the SHD line of batteries is zinc chloride and has advantages on high rate applications. This technology gives the SHD battery superior performance in high drain devices.

9. How is the capacity of a battery determined?

The capacity of a battery is typically expressed in milli-Amp hours (mAh). The batteries are discharged at a specific current drain (i.e. 25mA). The time is recorded to a cutoff voltage (i.e. 0.8 volts). The time (hours) it takes the battery to reach the cutoff voltage is then multiplied by the current drain to establish the mAh capacity of the battery.

10. Does the mAh capacity of a battery change with the drain rate?

A battery is much more efficient at using its fuel at lower current drain. Therefore, the mAh capacity of a battery will drop significantly at high drain rates.

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11. How long can I store batteries?

When stored at room temperature (ie 70° F/ 21°C, Cylindrical Alkaline batteries have a shelf life of 7 years and cylindrical Super Heavy-Duty (carbon zinc) 5 years. Storing the batteries at higher temperatures, shortens the shelf life and conversely, storing at lower temperatures can increase a batteries shelf life.

12. How can I test batteries to see if they're still good?

A battery tester (loaded voltmeter) is a simple and effective way to determine if a battery is good or bad. Most battery testers place an appropriate load on the batteries and then reads the voltage. A voltmeter without a load can give very misleading information and is not recommended for this purpose.

13. Is there a guarantee on Eveready batteries?

In the U.S. market, our guarantee states: "We will repair or replace, at our option, any device damaged by this battery if it is sent with batteries to Eveready. Guarantee void if user or device recharges battery."

14. Where can I obtain information on the effects of swallowing a battery?

The national poison control number is 202-625-3333 (call collect). This is a 24-hour service that is partially funded by the battery industry.

15. Are dry cell batteries considered hazardous waste?

No, Energizer dry cell batteries are classified as common household waste. Great strides have been made in making batteries more environmentally friendly by eliminating added mercury and switching away from rechargeable batteries containing cadmium.

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16. Why do batteries leak?

Batteries can leak for a variety of reasons. Some possible causes would be, charging, mixing of poison control center can be contacted for assistance 24 hours a day. Their batteries, physical damage, and deep discharge. Battery leakage contact with bare skin should be avoided. The national number is 202-625-3333 (call collect).