

Tips on Batteries

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General Tips

Following are a few simple rules to avoid driving your batteries beyond their normal exhaust point, and worse yet, possibly leaking.

- Replace all batteries at the same time
- Do not mix new batteries and used ones.
- Do not mix rechargeable and non-chargeable batteries
- Do not mix alkaline, nickel-metal hydride (Ni-MH), or nickel-cadmium (Ni-Cd) types of batteries.
- Do not mix different grades or brands of batteries
- Do not attempt to rejuvenate a battery that is not marked “rechargeable”.
- Turn off your camera when not in use
- Limit use of your LCD, which quickly drains batteries
- Occasionally clean the battery compartment components with a clean pencil eraser.
- When not in use store batteries in a cool, dry place out of reach of children
- If you won't be using your camera for an extended time, remove the batteries
- Avoid storing batteries in high temperatures areas (store at room temp or in the refrigerator).
- Protect batteries from condensation by storing them in a zipped plastic bag
- Allow batteries to reach room temperature before inserting them into your camera (cold temperatures impair performance).
- If shooting in cold weather – store extra batteries in your pants pocket close to your skin (keep them warm).
- Recharge fully each time, preferably right before use. Why? Most rechargeable batteries lose a significant amount of their energy during the first day of storage.
- Bargain Batteries - Some batteries are very expensive, especially rechargeable packs for big cameras and laptops. You can find bargains for batteries on the Internet (such as eBay). However, some testing has shown that SOME aftermarket replacement batteries do not perform as well as the brand name batteries... even if the cells originate from the same manufacturer. Allegedly the battery houses sell off their rejects (under-capacity, failed temperature range, etc.) to discounters, and those may end up in the aftermarket replacement packs.
- Only use a charger compatible with your rechargeable battery – don't mix and match!