

Exide Technologies

HOW TO CHARGE A DRY BATTERY

EXIDE dry-charged batteries are made available in slower moving group sizes to eliminate the need for periodic recharging of dealer and store inventories that wet batteries require. All EXIDE dry charged products are true "bone dry" products, as compared to "moist dry" products that some of our competitors offer. The EXIDE "bone dry" product has been known to last for over 10 years on the shelf. Listed below are six steps to activate the dry-charged battery. Following these activation steps will ensure maximum battery life and customer satisfaction.

1. REMEMBER SAFETY

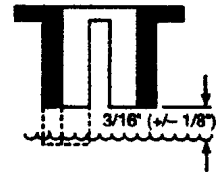
Always wear protective glasses, gloves and clothing when handling batteries and sulfuric acid electrolyte.

2. PREPARE BATTERY

Remove vents and date code punch outs. If the battery or electrolyte are below 60°F, activation will be slower.

3. ADD ELECTROLYTE

Fill each cell with electrolyte until the level just touches the bottom of the "split vent" at the bottom of the vent well. Do not overfill by covering up the split. If the split is covered, the gases created during charging will not escape properly, but will instead cause increasing splashing and acid loss. Under filling can reduce the performance and life of the battery.



4. LET THE BATTERY ABSORB THE ACID

It takes time for the battery plates and separators to absorb the acid. A 15 to 30 minute stand time before charging is recommended. Gentle rocking of the battery will help dislodge trapped air bubbles.

5. CHARGING THE BATTERY

It's always a good idea to charge the activated battery to ensure that it starts its life at 100% state of charge. Activated batteries should be charged at no more than 1% of CCA for 30 minutes, and up to 6 hours in severe cases of high, humid storage. For example, a 625 CCA battery should be charged at 6 amps. Reduce the charging rate if excessive gassing occurs.

Charging is recommended when:

- The voltage of the activated battery is below 12.4 volts even after the 15 minutes stand time.
- The customer will not install the battery within the next 30 days.
- The outside temperature is below 32°F.
- The battery has been in dealer inventory for more than two years.

6. TOP UP THE ELECTROLYTE LEVEL

Add electrolyte as required to bring the level back up to the bottom of the split vent in the bottom of the vent well. The acid level may have dropped due to absorption into the plates and separators. Replace the service vents.

Service hints for longer battery life:

- Add only pure drinking water or distilled water to the battery after it is placed in service
- Disconnect the ground cable when the vehicle is stored for more than 3 months. Cleaning the battery top, adding water, and charging the battery before vehicle storage will reduce discharge and sulfation battery failures.
- Specific gravity is your best indicator of battery state of charge.