

Battery Safety & Management

Scooters & Power Wheelchairs



Installing the Battery

- * **ALWAYS** have your batteries installed by a properly trained scooter or wheelchair technician.
- * **ALWAYS** fully charge batteries prior to use.
- * **ALWAYS** follow installation and start-up instructions provided by the mobility equipment manufacturer.
- GENERALLY scooters and wheelchairs require two batteries with a 24-volt series connection.
- NEVER mix and match battery manufacturers or technologies, or use batteries that do not have similar date codes.
- * **NEVER** mix Gel and AGM batteries.



Battery Break-In Period

- Deep cycling is a process used by active power wheelchair users that cycle their batteries daily. This requires a unique battery design that will sometimes compromise initial capacity in return for longer battery life.
- * Gel battery performance improves once the battery has been cycled (discharged and recharged) 15 20 times.
- * This break-in period is necessary to fully activate the battery for maximum performance and longevity.
- * Your range and running time of your mobility device could initially increase with use.



- * The charger supplied with your mobility device should fully charge your batteries overnight. Overcharging is not a problem with today's smart chargers as they are voltage limited and shut off automatically.
- * Sealed VRLA Gel and AGM batteries do not exhibit a "use it or lose it" capacityrobbing effect known as "memory".



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Correct Charging Guidelines

- ALWAYS use the equipment manufacturer's automatic charger for all routine charging.
- NEVER use an automotive or wet-type charger on Sealed VRLA Gel or AGM batteries as doing so will damage your battery. Depth of discharge affects cycle life. The harder a battery has to work, the shorter its life expectancy.
- * **ALWAYS** avoid ultra-deep discharges.
- * **NEVER** drain your batteries completely.
- NEVER leave your batteries in a low state of charge for an extended length of time. Charge a discharged battery as soon as possible.
- * **NEVER** cycle your batteries at a low state of charge without regularly recharging them fully.



Storage and Maintenance

- * ALWAYS store your batteries FULLY CHARGED.
- * Check all stored batteries once a month and recharge as needed.
- Fully charged Sealed VRLA Gel and AGM batteries can hold a charge for up to
 6 months, however, they should ALWAYS be charged before use.
- When storing a power chair or scooter for more than 2 weeks, charge the batteries first and then disconnect them for storage.
- * **ALWAYS** avoid hot and cold extremes when storing.
- Sealed VRLA Gel and AGM batteries require no watering.



Any performance related issues should be handled by a properly trained wheelchair or scooter technician.