

Basic Lead/Acid Battery Maintenance

Note: Always refer to the instructions included with the battery for proper procedures and care.

Caution: Always wear the necessary protective clothing when working with a battery, especially gloves and safety glasses!

Charging – Your battery should be charged often and when it is new (before using) for maximum life. A motorcycle/ATV battery is relatively small and should only be charged with a low amperage charger ranging between **0.6 to 3 amps**. Most car chargers use higher amps and can cause damage to the battery. (**Tusk** and **Battery Tender** chargers are recommended)

Monthly Maintenance – If your machine is charging the battery correctly, very little maintenance is needed. However, it is important to check the battery monthly to get the most life out of it. Keep the battery charged to 100%, recharging when the lights dim, the starter sounds weak, or the battery hasn't been used in more than two weeks. Other than that, follow this simple check list every month:

- Check the electrolyte (acid) level (for standard type batteries). If low, fill with distilled water (never re-fill with electrolyte)
- Clean the top free of grime and corrosion
- Check cables, clamps, and housing for obvious damage or loose connections
- Keep the terminals and connectors clean
- Make sure the exhaust tube is free of kinks and clogs (standard type batteries)

Finish up by testing the battery with either a battery tester or voltmeter. To extend the service life of your battery, make monthly battery maintenance part of your routine.

Storing Your Battery - If the vehicle is in storage or used infrequently, disconnect the battery cable to eliminate drain from electrical equipment. Charge the battery **every two weeks**.

For extended storage, remove the battery from the vehicle and charge to 100%. Charge the battery every month if stored at temperatures below 60° F. If stored in a warm area (above 60° F), charge every two weeks. This is extremely important **during cold winter months** where the cold and lack of use can really take its toll on a battery. Make sure batteries are stored out of reach of children.