

Caring for your Notebook Battery



Your notebook comes equipped with a rechargeable Lithium-Ion (Li-Ion) battery. In order to get the most life out of the battery, you must take care of it properly. Listed below are some tips and facts about Li-Ion batteries that will help.

- When your notebook first arrives (or when you purchase a new battery), you should be sure to fully charge the battery so that the battery gauge inside your notebook will be able to accurately measure the battery's charge level.
 - The duration of a charge will vary depending on how you use your notebook computer and how you configure the notebook's power management settings (see the user manual on your notebook's desktop for details on power management).
 - Unless the battery is already fully charged, it will charge whenever the AC Adapter is connected to your notebook. The battery will charge whether the system is on, off, or in hibernation ("sleep") mode.
 - It takes about 3 hours to fully recharge a battery when your notebook is turned off or in hibernation mode. It will take even longer if you're using the notebook while the battery is charging (about 4 hours or more).
 - The fastest battery recharge will occur when your notebook is turned off.
 - Each time you charge a Li-Ion battery that has only partially discharged, it will store slightly less power.
 - If you don't use the battery for a few days, it will slowly discharge on its own. When it's recharged, it will hold less than 100% of the potential charge.
- **To correct battery charge problems**, allow the battery to fully discharge *and then* fully recharge it (**NOTE**: Allowing the battery to run down to the "cut-off" point in your notebook will completely discharge it.). This operation, when carried out *every few weeks*, can help maintain your battery's efficiency. This process will also provide the periodic calibration necessary to keep the notebook's battery gauge synchronized with the battery's actual state-of-charge.
- As the battery is charged and discharged over time, it will gradually store less charge. Li-Ion cells generally last up to 500 discharge/charge cycles before they begin to deteriorate. Provided you've already followed the instructions listed above to correct battery charge problems, you should replace the battery when you notice that it stores significantly less charge.
 - One discharge/charge cycle is defined as one complete discharge (to zero) and recharge (to 100%) of battery power. If you discharge a battery by 25% and then recharge it to full power, you will have used up ¼ of a cycle.
 - *It's important to "exercise" your battery.* This means that if you constantly run your laptop for weeks or months at a time on nothing but AC power, you may realize a drastic drop in battery life when you go to finally use the laptop on battery power (to correct this, you would then need to completely discharge and recharge the battery). Simply put, if you don't use the battery regularly, it will be less likely to hold a charge.
 - Avoid exposing the battery to the extremes of heat and cold. Extremely high and low temperatures can cause the lithium-ion inside your battery to age much more quickly, thus causing your battery to suffer permanent capacity loss.
 - If you plan to store the battery outside your notebook for any extended length of time, do not store it fully discharged. A battery that is fully discharged may fail to work once you take it out of storage.
 - Li-Ion batteries generally have a lifespan of two to three years. The lithium-ion inside the battery starts aging the first day the battery is manufactured.
 - To greatly increase the amount of time you can operate your notebook on battery power, you may consider purchasing an extra battery.
NOTE: Due to the limited shelf life of lithium-ion, do not purchase spare batteries if you intend to hold them aside for *future* use. Only purchase a spare battery when you intend to use it with your notebook on a regular basis.