

KCHELP Power Wheel Chair and Scooter Battery Care and Maintenance

Your Equipment (either a power wheel chair or scooter) has deep-cycle batteries designed to deliver energy over a long period of time. Two of these 12 volt batteries are wired in series to deliver 24 volts to your equipment. These batteries are designed to require no maintenance beyond periodic charging.

Your batteries are expensive with costs ranging from \$50 to \$350 based on size and design. Your batteries have a limited life which will vary based on how they are used, charged, and where your equipment is stored. If you experience problems, please return the equipment to KC Help. The following care and maintenance guidelines should be followed to prolong the life of your batteries.

Cautions:

- NEVER attempt to recharge the batteries by attaching cables directly to the battery terminals.
- DO NOT attempt to recharge the batteries when the wheelchair has been exposed to any type of moisture. Excessive moisture through rain, condensation, or inadvertent sprinkler wetting can ruin the charging circuits, electronics and control elements of the Wheelchair or Scooter.
- DO NOT attempt to recharge the batteries when the wheelchair is outside.
- DO NOT sit in the wheelchair while recharging the batteries.
- DO NOT attempt repair yourself; always return to KC Help for a full diagnostic check out.

Charging Time

- During daily use, Charge your batteries when not in use with the charger provided with your equipment to achieve full charging.
- If not used for a few days, it is okay to leave the batteries connected to the charger, which will switch to a maintenance mode.
- For extended periods of nonuse, fully charge the batteries at least every two weeks.

Charging Tips

- Charge the batteries daily. Charging the batteries when only a 30% discharge has occurred is ideal and yields maximum battery life.
- Most equipment displays how much the batteries are discharged from fully-charged to deep-discharge. Avoid allowing batteries to reach a state of deep-discharge since this will decrease battery life. This is especially important with new batteries in their break in period of several weeks
- Do not interrupt the charging cycle.
- When disconnecting the charger pull on the connector, not the cables.
- Avoid use of extension cords to reduce the risk for fire or electric shock.

Storage

Store equipment in a dry location at room temperature. Outdoor or unheated shed storage can lead to freezing (winter) or over heating (summer), which will ruin the batteries.

If you have problems with your KCHELP equipment please contact KCHELP at (509) 212-0900. Refer to www.kchelp.org for more information on our equipment.

Additional information can be found at the following web links:

- <https://www.sunrisemedical.com/LiveQuickie/Blog/July-2020/7-Tips-Maintaining-Your-Power-Wheelchair-Batteries>
- <https://www.mkbattery.com/blog/taking-care-your-electric-wheelchair-battery>
- <https://www.1800wheelchair.com/maintaining-your-power-wheelchair-battery>
- <https://www.quantumrehab.com/resources/consumer-article-how-to-charge-your-power-wheelchair-batteries.asp>
- <https://www.passionatepeople.invacare.eu.com/charge-maintain-battery-power-wheelchair/>
- <https://www.numotion.com/products-services/service-and-repair/managing-power-wheelchair-batteries>
- <https://www.wheelchairjunkie.com/batteryfaqs/>