

Storage Batteries

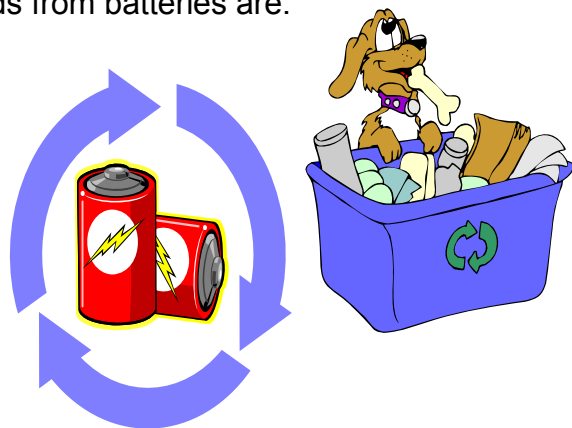
The storage battery that you are most likely to come in contact with is the automotive storage battery. Because of its compact size and the fact that it is so common, sometimes we tend to become careless in our use of the battery.

SAFETY SUGGESTIONS

1. Batteries should be stored or charged only in well-ventilated areas. Do not breathe fumes of battery acid. Battery caps should be removed during charging.
2. All sources of ignition should be remote from the battery storage area (i.e., no smoking, no lighted matches, no sparking from tools). Do not touch or “fiddle” with battery charging clamps while the charger is activated or has just finished charging.
3. Do not work on batteries while on discharge or charge.
4. Proper protective clothing should be worn when handling batteries (i.e., rubber gloves, face shield, apron).
5. Metal jewelry such as rings, bracelets, or necklaces should not be worn around batteries.
6. Deluge showers and eye baths should be provided adjacent to the battery charging area.
7. Acid spills can be neutralized with a weak ammonia solution or a bicarbonate of soda solution or diluted by large quantities of water applied immediately.
8. Battery chargers should be connected or disconnected only when charger is off and caps are in place.
9. Disconnect battery ground (—) cables before performing any major component removal from vehicles.

Some of the more serious potential hazards from batteries are:

1. Explosion due to improper connections.
2. Acid spills by incorrectly handling.
3. Back strain from improper lifting.



Safety Quiz—Storage Batteries

Student Name _____
Class _____
Date _____ Grade ____

1. It is OK to light a welder near a car while its battery is being charged. T F
2. A closet or small storeroom is a perfect place to charge batteries. T F
3. Jewelry such as rings, necklaces, and watches/bracelets should be taken off before charging a battery. T F
4. List three potentially serious hazards from batteries.
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
5. If battery acid gets in the eyes, deluge them with massive amounts of water immediately and get help (aid unit). T F