Betterlife from LloydsPharmacy

Battery Care Guide

Useful guide on how to care for your mobility scooter or electric wheelchair batteries

Charging your batteries

The first step you can take to care for your batteries is to give them a full charge.

When you receive your scooter or wheelchair the batteries will have a small amount of power in them, but won't be fully charged. We reccomend that they are charged for a minimum of 12hours before their first use.

Charge your batteries after every use

The batteries that are provided with your mobility scooter or electric wheelchair are sealed lead acid batteries. This type of battery behaves some what differently to the batteries that are found in your mobile phone or laptop. The more you charge your batteries, the more distance you will gain from your mobility scooter or electric wheelchair. By charging your batteries frequently it also helps to prolong the life span of your batteries.

If your batteries are drained to almost 0% charged then there's a chance that they will never re-charge to their full capacity. This can result in having to purchase replacement batteries much sooner than their expected lifespan. Keeping the batteries topped up is the best way to ensure that they are healthy.

? Troubleshooting

Although your battery indicator may show that your batteries are fully charged, ensure that the batteries are left on charge for a **minimum** of **8hours per charge**, to help maintain a healthy battery.

Things to consider...

The performance of your batteries is dependent on many factors, our easy to follow guide will help you to ensure you are following the correct steps to getting the most out of your batteries.

User Weight: A lighter user will find that they receive much more from their battery than a heavier user. This is because the motor has to work harder to propel the extra weight of the heavier user and will therefore draw more power from the batteries. The recommended user weight should not be exceeded.

Terrain: Just like with a heavier user, the motor must work much harder to push the user up steep gradients which in turn causes a greather drain on the batteries. The recommended gradient climb should not be exceeded.

Tyre Pressure: If your mobility scooter or powerchair is equpped with inflatable tyres (pnuematic) then you must ensure that they are kept at their optimum pressure to ensure efficiant running. A poorly inflated tyre causes more drag and forces the motor to work harder, draining the power from the batteries.

Temperature: When temperatures drop below 10°C the working efficiency of your batteries can drop significantly. Please bear this in mind if you find you are recieving less mileage in the winter months. Try to store your batteries in a warm place during the winter months.

Speed: When you are travelling at full speed, your motor has to work harder to maintain this speed. So if you travel at full speed for your whole journey you won't receive the full mileage capacity. Try to travel at a slower speed when possible to take full advantage of your travelling range

Troubleshooting

If you notice that you are not receiving the full range from your mobility scooter or electric wheelchair **this is normal.**

Your batteries will not reach their full capacity until they have endured **10-15 charge cycles**.

By familiarisng yourself with our easy to follow battery care guide it will help you to understand how to care for your mobility scooter or electric wheelchair batteries and how you can help prolong their lifespan.

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