

BATTERY HANDLING SAFETY

Use proper handling and safety procedures when it comes to car batteries. Follow these safety guidelines.

Lead-acid batteries contain hydrogen-oxygen gases that can be explosive, and sulfuric acid that can cause severe burns. To help avoid danger and injury, observe these precautions when handling or working with a lead-acid battery:

- Consult your vehicle and battery owner's manuals for instructions and safety precautions.
- Wear approved safety glasses or goggles and/or a face shield.
- Wear proper clothing to protect your face, hands and body.
- Make sure work area is well-ventilated.
- Never lean over the battery while boosting, testing or charging.
- Keep away from cigarettes, flames, sparks and other ignition sources – they could cause the battery to catch fire or even explode.
- Do not charge or use booster cables or adjust post connections without proper instructions and training.
- Exercise caution when working with metallic tools or conductors to prevent short circuits and sparks.
- Keep vent caps tight.
- Should you have direct contact with the battery fluids, flush the area with water and call a physician immediately.
- Keep out of the reach of children.

Content Source: Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) (Users of Safety Talk are advised to determine the suitability of the information as it applies to local situations and work practices and its conformance with applicable laws and regulations.)

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