

Golf-Rides

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GOLF CARS SALES & SERVICE



BATTERY MAINTENANCE

NO: Do not run your car until the batteries are completely dead before you recharge it. Golf car batteries should never be completely discharged prior to charging. This dramatically reduces their service life and will lead to early failure. YES: At the end of the day, if you've used your car, plug in your charger and let it run until it shuts itself off. Always start each day out with freshly charged batteries.

YES: Add water to your batteries' cells when the electrolyte level gets low. NO: Never fill up the cells then place the car on charge. The water will expand during charging, come out of the cells and onto the floor. YES: If you have a low cell or cells, add just enough water to cover the tops of the plates, then charge the car. After the charger has shut off and the batteries are cool, add water to each low cell to the appropriate level, about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch about the plates. Just maintain this level, and remember to (NO:) never fill battery cells to the top.

YES: Periodically wash the tops of the batteries with detergent and water. Then reapply Vaseline or a corrosion stop on all terminals (we sell the corrosion stop). Keeping the tops of your batteries free from dirt, grass clippings and acid residue from charging is one of the most important basic preventive maintenance chores you can perform. Damage from corrosion brought about by the lack of maintenance accounts for the majority of battery/battery terminal failures and vehicle downtime. NO: Don't deliberately force water into electrical components. Be sure all battery caps are tight.

YES: Disconnect the DC power cord after the car's fully charged and the charger has shut itself off. NO: Never leave a car unattended with the charger still plugged in for any extended period of time.

NO: Never add acid to a cell. Trying to add acid to a battery with water in the cells is also dangerous. Pouring sulfuric acid into a wet cell can cause the water to react and blow the mixture out and on to you.

Hot summer weather causes golf car batteries to self-discharge at a much higher rate than in cold weather. For example, a healthy, fully charged set of batteries will go from 100% capacity to 50% capacity in just 9 weeks if left sitting idle at a temperature of 86° F. Imagine what happens at 95 or 100 degrees. Batteries are most vulnerable to sulfation when they are sitting idle and partially discharged.

NO: Don't buy the auto parts store brand batteries or you'll be quickly disappointed. They are made differently and will not perform the same as those deep-cycle batteries that are specifically designed for golf cars.