

# Battery Identification & Safety Guide:

Safe battery recycling starts with you.

Use this guide to identify common battery types and how to prevent sparks before you recycle.

## Li-Ion



**Lithium-Ion** Type: Rechargeable Name on battery: Li-Ion

*Excellent performance for high drain devices but can be expensive.*

Commonly found in: Power Tools, Cellphones\*, Power Banks

★ **Always Protect Terminals** (Individually bag (preferred) or tape terminals)

## Ni-MH



**Nickel-Metal Hydride** Type: Rechargeable Name on battery: Ni-MH

*Reliable for high-drain, demanding devices and recharges up to 1,000 times.*

Commonly found in: Power Tools, Digital Cameras, Gaming Controllers

★ **Protect Terminals if over 9V** (Individually bag (preferred) or tape terminals)

## Ni-Cd



**Nickel Cadmium** Type: Rechargeable Name on battery: Ni-Cd

*Rechargeable up to 1,000 times; contains cadmium, a toxic metal that must be recycled.*

Commonly found in: Power Tools, Digital Cameras, Gaming Controllers

★ **Protect Terminals if over 9V** (Individually bag (preferred) or tape terminals)

## SSLA/Pb



**Small Sealed Lead Acid** Type: Rechargeable Name on battery: SSLA/ Pb

*Simple to manufacture. Lowest discharge rates of any rechargeable battery.*

Commonly found in: Emergency devices, Ride-On Toys, Security Systems

★ **Always Protect Terminals** (Individually bag (preferred) or tape terminals)

## Primary (Single-use)



**Primary (Single-use)** Type: Non-Rechargeable

Name on battery: alkaline, lithium, zinc-air, carbon-zinc, zinc-chloride, CR/SR/LR (button batteries)

*Cannot be recharged and must be disposed of after use. Examples include Alkaline (AAA, AA, C, D, 9V), lithium primary, and coin or button cell batteries.*

Commonly found in: Flashlights, Remote Controls, Smoke Detectors

★ **Lithium Primary & Coin/Button Batteries: Always Protect Terminals** (Individually bag (preferred) or tape terminals)

★ **Alkaline or Other non-lithium primary over 12V: Protect Terminals** (Individually bag (preferred) or tape terminals)

✓ **Alkaline & Other non-lithium primary under 12V: No terminal protection required**

\*Data removal is the responsibility of the device holder prior to drop-off.

**Damaged, defective, swollen, leaking or overheating batteries require special handling. Visit [battery.network.org/safety](https://battery.network.org/safety)**

### How to protect battery terminals (pick one)



#### Option A: Bag it (preferred)

Individually bag each battery in a clear bag, either The Battery Network's bag, zip-seal, or a produce/newspaper bag.



#### Option B: Tape it

Tape the terminals with clear packing, electrical, or duct tape. Don't use masking, painters, or Scotch tape. (It tends to peel off). If tape isn't clear, keep the brand and chemistry visible.

### For more information:

CALL  
1.877.723.1297

EMAIL  
[connect@battery.network.org](mailto:connect@battery.network.org)

Find a battery drop-off location near you:  
[battery.network.org/locator](https://battery.network.org/locator)