

Safe Battery Recycling Guide:

Protect the Terminals. Avoid the Spark.

Even though used batteries might not have the energy to power a device anymore, they can still carry enough charge to spark if their terminals come into contact with metal or other batteries. Taking a moment to protect the batteries that need it helps keep people, property, and recycling facilities safe.

1 **Check The Battery Type** to know if it needs terminal protection. Not all batteries require terminal protection. Start by checking the label to identify the battery type. The chemistry is usually printed right on it.

Protect

Protect the terminals if the battery is any of the following:



If it says "LITHIUM" anywhere

- Lithium-ion (Li-ion) Ex: power tools, cellphones, power banks
- Lithium-primary Ex: watches, hearing aids, small toys



Soft-sided batteries

Ex: laptops, drones, medical devices



Button or coin cells

Ex: watches, hearing aids, key fobs



Rechargeable (Ni-Cd, Ni-MH, Ni-Zn) batteries over 9V

Ex: in power tool packs



Alkaline or carbon zinc batteries over 12V

Ex: garage door openers, wireless doorbells, medical devices



Small sealed lead acid (SSLA)

Ex: emergency devices, ride-on toys, security systems

No Protection Required

Terminal protection is not required as long as they are **not** labeled "lithium":

Alkaline or carbon zinc batteries (AAA, AA, C, D, 9V) 12V or less

Ex: tv remotes, toys, flashlights

Rechargeable (Ni-Cd, Ni-MH, Ni-Zn) batteries under 9V

Ex: game controls, flashlights, electric toothbrushes

Remember

If it's says **LITHIUM**=Protect it

If it's **SOFT-SIDED**=Bubble Bag it



DO NOT PLACE DAMAGED, DEFECTIVE, OR RECALLED (DDR) BATTERIES INTO THE BATTERY NETWORK'S COLLECTION BOXES.



No Swollen Batteries



No Damaged Batteries

Visit batterynetwork.org/safety to learn more. Corroded or leaking alkaline batteries are not considered damaged.



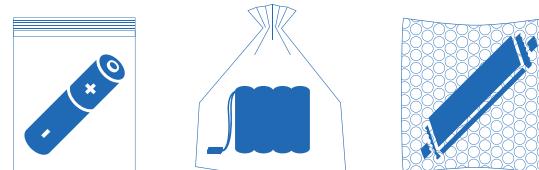
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Protect the batteries that need it.

Only batteries that require terminal protection should be bagged or taped.

Option A

Individually bag each battery (preferred)



Use a clear bag such as:

- The Battery Network-provided bags
- Zip-seal bags
- Produce or newspaper bags
- Bubble-wrap bags (**required for all soft-sided batteries**)

Option B

Tape the terminals



Cover the terminals with either:

- Clear packing tape
- Electrical tape
- Duct tape

No masking, painters, or Scotch tape!

If using non-clear tape, keep the battery brand and chemistry type visible.