

Workplace Safety

# Care and Handling of Your Batteries — Battery Do's and Don'ts

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- **Do:** Read the instructions on your device before installing batteries. Make sure to insert the batteries properly, following the symbols showing you the correct way to position the positive (+) and negative (-) ends of the batteries.
- **Do:** Keep battery contact surfaces clean by gently rubbing with a clean pencil eraser or cloth.
- **Do:** Replace batteries with the size and type specified in the operating instructions. Remove all used batteries from the device at the same time, then replace them with new batteries of the same size and type.
- **Do:** Store batteries in a cool, dry place at normal room temperature. Remove batteries from devices that will be stored for extended periods.
- **Don't:** Dispose of batteries in a fire — they may rupture or leak.
- **Don't:** Don't carry loose batteries in a pocket or purse with metal objects like coins, paper clips, etc. This will short-circuit the battery, generating high heat.
- **Don't:** Don't recharge a battery unless it is specifically marked "rechargeable." Attempting to recharge a normal battery could result in rupture or leakage.
- **Don't:** Don't use rechargeable alkaline batteries in nickel metal hydride battery chargers.
- **Don't:** Don't put batteries or battery-powered devices in hot places — elevated temperatures increase the self-discharge of batteries.
- **Don't:** Don't mix old and new batteries, or mix different types or makes of batteries. This can cause rupture or leakage, resulting in personal injury or property damage.

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