

New Battery Conditioning Checklist

You've just had your laptop battery replaced, it's worth taking a few minutes to condition it for the best performance. A fresh battery and your laptop's battery controller don't yet agree on exactly where "full" and "empty" are. Calibrating once at the start teaches the controller the true limits, so your charge percentage reads accurately and you get the most life out of the new battery from day one.

Here's how to condition your new battery for best life and performance:

Test Your New Battery

Time to make sure everything is working correctly: Plug in your laptop and power it on. Check that the battery is recognized and charging. Once fully charged, unplug and use your laptop to ensure it runs on battery power.

Charge to 100% and then some

Plug in your laptop and charge it all the way to 100%. Once it's full, leave it plugged in for another 1 to 2 hours to make sure the upper limit is fully recorded.

Discharge it completely and then some

Unplug the charger and use your laptop normally, browse the web, work, watch videos, until the battery drains and the computer turns itself off. Then let it sit without plugging it in for 3-5 hours (overnight is fine).

Recharge it to 100%

Before you turn it on, plug the charger back in and allow the laptop to charge uninterrupted all the way back to 100%.

Use normally and enjoy

- Best practices: generally keep the charge between 20-80% to avoid over-charging, or having the computer "power crash."
- Never leave the laptop plugged in all the time. You will degrade the battery much faster, potentially damaging the computer.
- Keep it out of direct sunlight and hot cars for any extended period. Excessive heat can cause swelling and fire danger if the battery expands and ignites.
- Avoid letting it drain to 0%. This could "power lock" your computer, making it so it won't be able to turn on.