

Charging and maintenance tips

The key to a long and reliable battery life is frequent charging and proper maintenance. Here are a few things to remember.

TOP CHARGE AT LEAST EVERY THIRD WEEK. A battery should be recharged whenever possible, and you should use an external charger (min 20A). If you use an alternator, you can only top charge (up to 90%) if it's at least +25°C outside, due to regulations concerning charging voltage (max 28.8V). The battery chargers we recommend have intelligent charge controls and temperature compensation. This ensures higher voltage charges and helps maximise battery lifetime.

DURING LONGER STOPS – PLUG IN A BATTERY CHARGER.

Examples of stop scenarios:

- The driver spends the night/weekend in the cab: If possible, plug in a battery charger (min 20A).
- The driver leaves the truck for the night/weekend: Always plug in a battery charger (min 20A).

This gives you fully charged batteries and saves fuel since you won't use the alternator to charge the batteries while driving.

N.B. Charging by alternator uses approximately 1.5 litres of diesel (€2) as fuel consumption increases by 1.5% during charging.

BEWARE OF COLD WEATHER.

This harms battery capacity and chargeability. A 225Ah battery only has 110Ah left at -18°C. Please note that you get an Alert warning at 35% of 225 Ah, i.e. at 80Ah. This means that you only have 30Ah for on-board living in this situation as 80Ah is required to start the engine. Therefore, only use a minimal number of consumers and charge even more often in cold temperatures.



Some things to note:

- At 0°C, you get warning messages, even with a fully working battery
- Below 0°C, chargeability is reduced by up to 94%
- At -15°C, the battery indication is shut off to save battery energy
- Full capacity and chargeability are restored at +25°C

KEEP EVERYTHING CLEAN. To guarantee a good connection between battery and the B+ cable, make sure to keep them clean.

Three smart accessories

SOME TYPES OF TRANSPORTS are extra demanding. And due to unforeseen events, you might need to use more battery power than planned. It's wise to have these three installed in your vehicle.

Volvo Battery Charger

This helps you charge the batteries and guarantees that a top charge can be provided even in cold weather (unlike when you use alternators). We offer the following types of chargers (like the one shown on the right):

- Chargers for vehicle fitting
- External chargers for use without fitting

All chargers have min. 20A and intelligence to avoid overcharging.

Extension cord kit

This 5-metre 220V cord connects your truck to external charge stations. Especially useful when such stations are awkwardly placed or too far away for the regular connection cord.



Volvo Battery Reconditioner

Removes and prevents sulphation. This helps you avoid discharges that could ruin the battery.