

Car Batteries: Resurrect Dead Ones!



You may bring an old, dead car battery back to life, with a battery charger and a chemical called EDTA. It won't work every time, but even once seems like a miracle.

1. Put on rubber gloves and eye protection to protect you from sulfuric acid.
2. Empty old battery acid into safe container like plastic wastebasket.
3. Store old battery acid in a plastic milk jug marked "BATTERY ACID."
4. Rinse out battery with water 3 times. The rinse water has acid in it! Here's proof: Look at my pant leg on the right, above. Empty the battery after final rinse.
5. Buy "EDTA" from health food store. I bought 200 625mb capsules. Empty 12 capsules into a clean plastic milk jug. Dissolve in a pint of warm water, then fill jug.
6. Mark the jug "EDTA Solution." It isn't poisonous and won't make holes in clothes.
7. Fill battery with EDTA solution.
8. Charge battery for 24 hours per middle photo.
9. Put on rubber gloves and eye protection to protect you from sulfuric acid.
10. Empty battery. The EDTA solution will have some leftover acid in it.
11. Fill battery with sulfuric acid. I used a syringe from a veterinarian.
12. Charge battery for 24 hours.
13. If the battery takes a charge, you have resurrected a battery! Use it!

Batteries die from several causes. If the plates in the battery have become coated and no longer can take a charge, charging a battery full of EDTA solution may clean the plates. If the battery has a mechanical or other problem, this process does not work. I had 7 dead batteries, and it worked on 3 of them.

If you get battery acid on you, dilute it with water immediately. You can sell old batteries for junk if they won't take a charge.