

Battery care

- Keep idle batteries fully charged.
- Use only distilled water for topping up.
- Fill cells after charging.
- Keep the top of the case clean and dry.
- Keep terminals and cable clamps corrosion-free. Use a wire brush to remove corrosion. Coat both terminal and clamp with petroleum jelly (not grease) to prevent future corrosion.
- Consider replacing flooded lead acid batteries every two years, they really do have a short life. Maintenance free batteries are good for about three years, and AGM's for at least four years.
- A bad battery will not heal or get better.
- Lash the batteries down.
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- Watch for cracks, swelling, or leaks in the container.
- Replace battery cables if they are broken or frayed. Damaged cables are extremely hazardous.
- Tighten all wiring connections to the proper specification . Make certain there is good electrical contact with the terminals.
- If a battery has a weak cell, tying two batteries in parallel, or "both" position on the switch, will cause the stronger battery to dump its charge and energy into the weak battery. Creating two dead batteries.
- Use a marine charger designed for the marine environment. Avoid inexpensive automotive chargers.