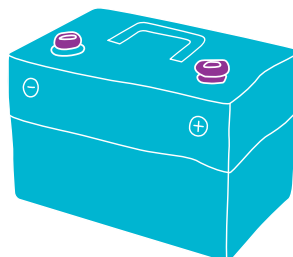


Recycle batteries safely



Dry cell batteries contain an electrolyte in paste form, commonly alkaline, lithium-ion, and nickel-cadmium.



Wet cell batteries use a liquid electrolyte, commonly lead-acid or nickel-cadmium cells.

Why we should recycle

- Nickel-cadmium batteries are potentially carcinogenic when exposed to extreme heat and moisture thus should not be disposed of in general waste
- When batteries end up in landfill they can leach toxic metals, polluting land and water
- Over 66% of batteries purchased every year in Australia are sent to landfill, making them the most common form of household hazardous waste





How recycling helps

- Battery acid can be recycled into sodium sulphate, which is used to manufacture laundry detergent, glass and textiles
- Cadmium can be recycled back to battery manufacturers to be used again, creating a closed loop recycling system

What you can do

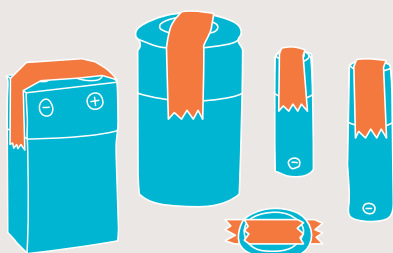
- Don't throw batteries in the general waste
- Recycle old batteries
- Buy rechargeable batteries. Rechargeable batteries last longer, can be used 100 times more than single-use batteries and divert harmful waste from entering landfills
- To recycle DRY batteries at UQ, send in a sealed container via internal mail to:
University Chemical Store,
Cnr Glasshouse Rd and
Walcott St, St Lucia Campus
- To recycle WET batteries at UQ, email chemwaste@uq.edu.au for collection

Safety first

- X** Never place damaged, swollen, hot or smoking batteries into internal mail or any bin
-  When batteries are ready for recycling, separate different battery types to reduce risk of fire and explosion
-  Students are encouraged to dispose of batteries off campus. Many local supermarkets accept batteries. Find a collection point near you Australia's official battery stewardship scheme – B-cycle (bcycle.com.au).
-  Staff members should place used batteries for recycling into internal mail (see below)
-  Minimise the quantity of batteries being stored and collected by sending batteries for recycling more often. For large quantities of batteries or large sized batteries, call the UQ Science Store to arrange collection.

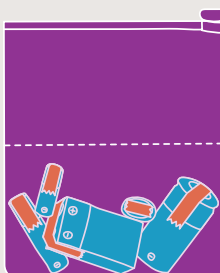
1

Tape battery terminals



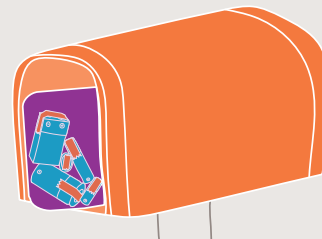
2

Place into ziplock bag (half full maximum)



3

Deposit in internal mail to:
Batteries for recycling
UQ Science Store



THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA

CREATE CHANGE

UQ Sustainability
sustainability.uq.edu.au



Latest
safety
alert



Health, Safety
and Wellness
Division