

SOUTHERN
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TOYOTALIFT

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BATTERY CARE 101

We care about your success. That's why our team of dedicated material handling experts have compiled this introductory guide to proper care for electric forklift industrial batteries. Protect your investment to maximize your batteries' effective lifespan and the efficiency of your forklift. Keep these basic best practices for proper battery care in mind to get the most out of your new equipment.



FORKLIFT BATTERY CHARGING

Be sure to follow guidelines from your forklift battery's manufacturer. The charging cycles available for your battery are limited, whether it's a traditional lead-acid unit, a maintenance-free AGM, or a lithium-ion. Typically, you should recharge a battery after an 8-hour shift or when it has discharged more than 30%. Unless your system is configured for opportunity charging, don't cut a charging cycle short, as this can severely reduce the battery's effective lifespan.



FORKLIFT BATTERY MAINTENANCE

Lead acid batteries require regular additions of pure or distilled water. Watering your forklift batteries helps to maintain proper electrolyte levels and should be checked every five cycles. If the plastic battery element can be seen in several cells, the fluid should be topped off. Watering should always take place after the battery has been charged to avoid diluting electrolyte levels. This process can be simplified with the right watering system and expert training for your staff.



HANDLING FORKLIFT BATTERIES

Make sure your employees are protected when handling and moving forklift batteries. The acid present in lead-acid batteries can cause burns and serious harm to skin and eyes. Your workspace will need eyewash and handwashing stations near battery storage and charging areas. Your operators should also wear personal protective equipment (PPE) when transporting batteries. Specialized equipment, such as an electric pallet jack with a transfer carriage, should be used by a team to transport batteries around your facility.

Maintaining your electric forklift batteries is essential for optimizing the performance of your forklift fleet.

Replace Before Failure... We Can Help!