

UNIFIED FIRE AUTHORITY

LITHIUM-ION BATTERY FIRE SAFETY







Overview: Powering Our World with Lithium-Ion Batteries

Lithium-ion batteries power a wide range of devices including smartphones, laptops, e-scooters, e-bikes, e-cigarettes, vehicles, smoke detectors, and even toys. When mishandled or damaged, these batteries may overheat, ignite, or in some cases, explode.

The Problem: Understanding Battery Hazards

Lithium-ion batteries store a large amount of energy and can pose a threat if not treated properly. Fires can be caused by thermal runaway—a rapid chain reaction triggered by overheating, overcharging, physical damage, or internal defects.



Discontinue use of the battery if you detect any of the following: odor, discoloration, excessive heat, deformation, leakage, or strange sounds. If it's safe, place the device away from flammable materials and call 9-1-1.

Warning Signs: How to Spot Danger Early



Best Practices: Take C.H.A.R.G.E

Certified Handle Always Recycle Get Out Now Others

- When buying devices, check for the Underwriters Laboratories (UL) mark, which indicates the product has undergone safety testing.
- Charge and store the device according to the manufacturer's guidelines.
- Only use the charging cable and power adapter designed for that specific device by the manufacturer.
- Do not charge your device near exits, including doors, windows, or fire escapes.
- Keep batteries and devices at room temperature, away from direct sunlight.
- O not charge using an extension cord.
- Store batteries in a location free from flammable materials.



Recycle Responsibly



- On not put lithium-ion batteries in the trash.
- On not put discarded batteries in piles.
- Recycling is always the best option.
- Oispose lithium-ion batteries at designated recycling facilities.

For a responsible way to dispose lithium-ion batteries, visit: call2recycle.org/locator



Or

Use the QR Code



FOR MORE SAFETY TIPS















