

Rechargeable Battery Recycling Programme

FAQ

1. How do I know if my battery has come to the end of its useful life and needs to be replaced?

If the standby time of your battery is substantially reduced after it is fully charged, this is a general indication the battery is near the end of its useful life and may need replacing. Consult the equipment supplier in case of uncertainty.

2. Do I need to pay when I use this recycling service?

No, the service is free of charge.

3. Can I deposit my electrical or electronic equipment together with the rechargeable battery in the battery collection bin?

This programme only recovers rechargeable batteries - rechargeable batteries must be removed from the equipment before they are placed in the collection bin. However, separate programmes have been launched to recover [computers](#) and [electrical appliances](#).

4. Do I need to do anything special to the rechargeable batteries before I drop them in the collection bin? **NEW**

Please place a piece of non-conductive electrical tape such as masking tape over the battery terminals before dropping them in, as a safety precaution to prevent contact between terminals or other metal surfaces during storage and transport. For batteries that are vulnerable to damage, the public should put them in plastic bag (e.g. reuse the packaging of new batteries) and seal them with adhesive tape before deposit.

5. Can I return damaged rechargeable batteries for recycling? **NEW**

For safety precautions, EPD do not suggest the public to put damaged rechargeable batteries into the collection boxes. Single damaged battery could be placed in sealable plastic bag and disposed of at refuse bin with other household waste.

6. Can I return disposable batteries (such as alkaline, zinc carbon or button cells) for recycling?

This programme only receives and recycles rechargeable, dry cell batteries. Disposable, or single-use, batteries are not accepted. For further details, see the section on [why we don't recycle disposable batteries](#). The EPD encourages the public to use rechargeable batteries as much as possible because they are more cost-effective, generate less waste and are more amenable to recycling than disposable batteries.

7. There are many different rechargeable battery types. Will they all be accepted?

All 3 common types of rechargeable batteries can be deposited in the collection bins, namely the Lithium Ion (Li-ion), Nickel Metal Hydride (NiMH) and Nickel Cadmium (NiCd).