

TIPS FOR JUMPING A DEAD BATTERY

Always consult and follow your vehicle owner's manual for manufacturer's recommendations prior to jumping your vehicle or another vehicle with your vehicle.

Batteries contain hydrogen gas, which can ignite and explode if the gas comes into contact with a spark. Batteries also contain acid which may cause injury if the battery explodes.

Damage to your vehicle can occur if the cables are connected incorrectly or if the cables are connected together. The voltage surge that results may damage your charging system and/or other electronic components in your vehicle.

To minimize risks, use the following precautions when jumping:

- Wear eye protection
- Do not smoke
- Make sure the vehicles are not touching (contact could provide an unwanted electrical path)
- Turn the engine off
- Connect the red jumper cable from the positive (+) post or terminal on the "good" battery to the positive post or terminal on the low or dead battery in the other vehicle
- Connect the black jumper cable from the negative (-) post or terminal on the "good" battery to a solid ground on the other vehicle (not the battery)
- DO NOT make the final (negative) jumper connection directly to the low or dead battery itself. The reason for not doing this is the final jumper connection will normally produce a spark. Making the final connection away from the battery will minimize any danger of an explosion by keeping the spark well away from the battery

Make sure the ground connection on the vehicle with the low or dead battery provides a good electrical contact. Use an unpainted metal surface like an engine bracket or a frame member. Start the engine in the vehicle with the good battery. Run the engine at fast idle for several minutes before attempting to start the vehicle with the low or dead battery. This will allow the charging system to charge the low or dead battery while lessening the drain on the good battery and charging system.

If the vehicle does not crank or cranks slowly, recheck the jumper connections. If it still doesn't crank, the problem may be something other than the battery (such as a bad starter, bad solenoid, bad battery cable connection or internal engine problem). If the vehicle cranks normally, but refuses to start, it may have an ignition, fuel or mechanical problem.

Do not crank the starter more than fifteen seconds at a stretch. Allow the starter to cool for about two minutes before cranking the engine again. Continuous grinding of the starter can cause it to overheat and fail.

As soon as the vehicle with the dead battery starts, disconnect the battery cables. The vehicle should then be driven for a short a period as possible before the battery is charged using a battery charger. Running a vehicle for a lengthy amount of time on a low battery can overheat and damage the alternator.

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