

UNIT 6 – LITHIUM-ION BATTERY SAFETY

LITHIUM-ION BATTERIES

Many portable devices such as laptop computers, mobile phones, children’s toys, e-scooters, e-bikes and e-cigarettes may contain rechargeable lithium-ion batteries.

Most rechargeable devices contain lithium-ion batteries.

Only charge batteries on hard surfaces in a room where a working smoke alarm is present.

Never charge a device under your pillow, on your bed or on a couch.

You should always purchase products from trusted suppliers.

Lithium-ion batteries can catch fire if you use the wrong charger or modify the battery or appliance they charge.

Lithium-ion batteries should never be disposed of in your household rubbish bin.

If your battery catches fire, ring 000 immediately and wait in a safe location for firefighters to arrive.

It is not safe to attempt to put the fire out yourself, as batteries involved in fires can release toxic gases and generate multiple explosions.

Read *Lithium-ion batteries* text. Circle True or False.

Laptops commonly contain lithium-ion batteries.	True	False
Lithium-ion batteries are not rechargeable.	True	False
You should always charge lithium-ion batteries in a room with a smoke alarm.	True	False
You must never put lithium-ion batteries in your household rubbish	True	False
It is safe to put a lithium-ion battery fire out yourself	True	False

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SAFE BATTERY USAGE

Cut out the sentences. Sort the sentences into '**Always**' and '**Never**'.

Always ...

Never ...

charge a device under your pillow, on your bed or on a couch

charge your e-bike or e-scooter where a fire would block your way out

use the chargers that are supplied with the equipment or device

leave batteries or devices charging when you are asleep or are not at home

unplug device from the charger and switch the power point off when fully charged

follow the manufacturer's instructions

call Triple Zero (000) if a battery or device catches fire, ask for the fire brigade and wait in a safe place away from the smoke

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CLOZE ACTIVITY

Complete the sentences with words from the box.

exits	home	charged	working	safe
charge	toxic	device	overheating	

1. Don't use batteries or devices that are swollen, leaking or _____.
2. Only use chargers that are supplied with the _____, never modify the batteries.
3. Don't block _____ when charging your e-bike or e-scooter.
4. Never _____ a device under your pillow, on your bed or couch.
5. Charge items on surfaces that will not burn and unplug as soon as they are fully _____.
6. Never leave devices charging when you are asleep or when you leave your _____.
7. You must have a _____ smoke alarm.
8. If your battery catches fire, call Triple Zero (000) and wait in a _____ location.
9. The smoke from a lithium-ion battery fire can be _____.

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DEFINITIONS

Match the words and their meanings.

device	overheating	smoke alarm	unplug
unattended	charger	exit	modify

- _____ an item with a lithium-ion battery
- _____ to change the way something works
- _____ the way out of your home
- _____ plug between power point and battery
- _____ an item that detects smoke in your home
- _____ when something gets too hot
- _____ to disconnect from electricity
- _____ to leave alone where you can't see



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SAFE USAGE



Read the following text and highlight the correct word.

Only use the battery that **is/isn't** designed for that device.

Only charge batteries on **hard/soft** surfaces in a room where a working smoke alarm is present.

Never/Always charge a device under your pillow, on your bed or on a couch

Avoid charging your e-bike or e-scooter where a fire would block your way **in/out**.

Read the sentences below and circle **True** or **False**.

- | | | |
|--|------|-------|
| a. Always call Triple Zero (000) if your battery catches fire | True | False |
| b. Do not leave batteries or devices unattended while charging | True | False |
| c. Never charge a device under your pillow, on your bed or couch | True | False |
| d. Use batteries or devices that are swollen, leaking, or overheating. | True | False |
| e. Never charge your device when you are asleep or when you leave home | True | False |

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DISCUSSION



1. Look at the pictures and answer the questions.
 - a. What can you see in this picture?
 - b. Which items would have a lithium-ion battery?
 - c. How many of these items do you have?
 - d. What three things can you do to use lithium-ion batteries safely?
2. Discuss with a partner.
3. Discuss as a class.