



PowerBook & iBook Battery Helpful Information

Battery Use & Care FAQ

Q : How can I increase the battery life of my computer?

A : The two operations of your portable computer that drain the battery the most are using the backlight on your screen and using your hard drive. To increase battery life reduce these two factors. Set your hard drive to spin down quickly and turn off your backlight or sleep the machine when not in use. These options are available in the Energy Saver system preference panel.

Here are some more tips for battery conservation :

- Disconnect bus-powered USB or Firewire devices when not in use.
- Quit open applications that you are not using.
- Remove CD and DVD discs when they are not in use.
- Reduce screen brightness using the brightness controls on the computer's keyboard.
- If you have an Airport card installed, but are not using an Airport network, turn Airport off.
- Set the hard disk to spin down after a short period of time.

Q : What is the proper method to recharge my battery?

A : Recharge Lithium-Ion batteries when they become depleted. Although they are not subject to the memory effect, it is suggested that the battery be recalibrated every so often.

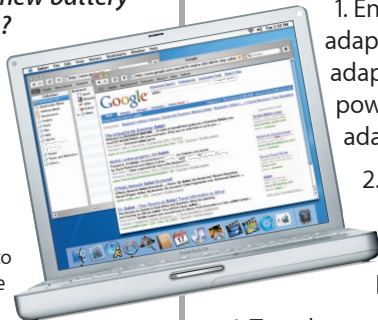
Q : How can I calibrate a new battery for the best performance?

A : The battery of an iBook or PowerBook G4 has an internal microprocessor that provides an estimate of the amount of energy in the battery during charging and discharging.

The battery needs to be recalibrated from time to time to keep the on screen battery time display accurate. You should perform this procedure when you first use your computer and then every couple of months thereafter.

First, plug the adapter in and fully charge the battery until the indicator lights turn off and the adapter ring goes from amber to green. Then disconnect the power adapter and use your computer. When the battery gets low, you will see the first low battery warning dialog on the screen. Continue to use your computer until it goes to sleep. At that point the battery has been sufficiently drained for calibration.

Finally, connect the power adapter and leave it connected until the battery is fully charged again.



Battery Storage Tip : Pack 'em up before you leave for the summer

If you are not going to be using your iBooks or PowerBooks over the warm summer months, here is a tip for storing batteries so they will be ready when you return in the fall.

When not using a battery for a prolonged period of time, you should fully charge the battery and then remove it from the computer. These batteries should then be stored in a cool, climate-controlled location. Storing them in this manner for 1 - 2 months will ensure the batteries will power up your computers when you return.

Batteries may be damaged if stored for long periods with a closed circuit (i.e. still in the computer) or in a non-air conditioned room or closet.

(This information along with further details can be found in article 10751 of the AppleCare Knowledge Base, available online at www.apple.com/support)



Battery Troubleshooting 101

If your iBook or PowerBook operates normally when plugged into AC power (wall outlet), but does not operate using a battery, try the following steps, in the order listed, to verify whether the problem is related to the battery or another component of the computer.

1. Ensure the battery is fully charged by using the proper power adapter for your computer. The connectors on the white power adapters will glow amber if the battery is accepting a charge. If the power connector is not glowing, you may have an issue with the AC adapter or outlet.
2. Reseat the battery to ensure it is making good, solid contact.
3. Reset the Power Management Unit (PMU). (Visit www.info.apple.com/kbnum/n14449 for exact instructions on how to reset the PMU for your model of iBook or PowerBook).
4. Try a known-good battery.
5. Replace the battery.

(This information along with further details can be found in article 58450 of the AppleCare Knowledge Base, available online at www.apple.com/support)



Apple Education Service and Support

Are you having technical issues with your batteries or other Apple hardware? Contact one of our Education Technical Support representatives for assistance by calling 1-800-800-2775 and selecting option 3. Representatives are available from 7am - 8pm CST Monday through Friday and 8am - 8pm Saturday and Sunday.

(Support is also available 24 hours-a-day from the AppleCare Knowledge Base, available online at www.apple.com/support)