



## Batteries: Use Them Safely

Small button cell batteries can cause internal chemical burns in as little as two hours if swallowed. This can lead to serious injuries or death. Also, batteries contain harmful substances, such as acids and heavy metals. If batteries are not correctly used, stored and discarded, these harmful substances may leak, or the batteries may overheat or burst.

Read and follow all instructions on the battery packaging.



### Safety Tips

- Be aware that many common household items that children come in contact with may contain button cell batteries, such as remote controls, watches, musical greeting cards, flashing jewellery and shoes, calculators, small electronic items and toys.
- Make sure children can't get hold of the button cell batteries from products that use them.
- Seek immediate medical attention if a child swallows a battery.
- Keep batteries out of the reach of children.
- Store batteries away from medicine and food so they are not unintentionally swallowed.

- Do not use different types of batteries together:
  - Do not mix old batteries with new ones.
  - Do not mix alkaline, carbon or other types of batteries.
  - Do not mix rechargeable batteries with non-rechargeable batteries.
  - Do not mix batteries of different name brands.
- Only recharge batteries that are clearly labelled as rechargeable. Use the correct battery charger for the battery type.
- Store batteries in the original packaging in a cool, dark place, away from household chemicals.
- Install batteries correctly by lining up the "+" signs on the battery and in the battery compartment of the product.
- Do not store new or used batteries where they can touch metal, such as loose change in a pocket.
- Never discard batteries in a fire.
- Contact your local government to find out if they have a battery recycling program.

### Toys with Batteries

- Only adults should install or remove batteries.
- Buy toys that have sturdy battery compartments that cannot be easily opened by children.
- Make sure that a child does not take a battery-operated toy to bed.
- Seek immediate medical attention if a child swallows a battery.

