

# 10 WAYS TO BE LITHIUM-ION BATTERY FIRE SAFE



## 1 **KNOW THE SIGNS OF A DANGEROUS BATTERY**

Stop using the battery if you notice any of the following signs: odor, change in color, too much heat, smoking, change in shape, cracks, leaking, odd noises, popping sounds, or swelling.

## 2 **STORE BATTERIES AND DEVICES AWAY FROM ANYTHING THAT CAN CATCH FIRE**

This reduces the risk of a battery fire spreading and threatening people's lives or causing significant property damage.

## 3 **USE THE CORRECT CHARGING CABLE**

This ensures that the cord can handle the flow of electricity to the battery. Using the wrong cord could make it heat up or cause a short or spark, which can start a fire.

## 4 **ALWAYS FOLLOW THE MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS**

Following the instructions not only ensures better battery performance for longer, but it also reduces the chance of the battery being damaged. A damaged battery is more likely to start a fire.

## 5 **DO NOT CHARGE BATTERIES AT EXTREME TEMPERATURES**

Charging in extreme temperatures can lead to dangerous conditions. For example, charging something at below-freezing temperatures could cause the battery to short and start a fire.

## 6 **ONLY USE THE BATTERY THAT IS DESIGNED FOR THE DEVICE**

This ensures that the power flows properly from the battery to the device, which decreases the chance that dangerous sparks or shorts could occur.

## 7 **KEEP THE BATTERIES AT ROOM TEMPERATURE**

Storing the batteries at extreme temperatures can result in the batteries being damaged or deformed. A damaged or deformed battery is a dangerous battery.

## 8 **DO NOT KEEP CHARGING AFTER DEVICE IS FULLY CHARGED**

Overcharging can lead to overheating, which is one of the most common ways for a fire to begin.

## 9 **PROPERLY DISPOSE OF BATTERIES**

Lithium-ion batteries and the devices that contain them should not go in household garbage or recycling bins. They can cause fires during transport or at landfills and recycling plants.

## 10 **CALL 9-1-1**

No matter how the fire began, always remember the golden rule of fire safety. If a fire has started, do not hesitate: GET OUT, STAY OUT, and CALL 9-1-1.



# LITHIUM-ION BATTERY SAFETY

Lithium-ion battery fires are uniquely dangerous because they burn much hotter than a typical fire. For example, electric vehicle fires burn at ~ 5,000°F, more than three times hotter than a standard vehicle fire.

Calling 9-1-1 is critical because **standard fire extinguishers do not work on lithium-ion fires.**

Over the past five years, there have been **25,000 incidents of lithium-ion batteries catching on fire or overheating.** Never touch a ruptured battery. The heat and chemicals can cause severe burns.

**When flying, remove batteries from checked bags.** Keep them with you on the plane.

**Knowledge is power,** and understanding lithium-ion batteries can help you take the steps necessary to be fire safe.