



Lithium battery upgrade

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Have you ever worried about running out of power during your RV trips? If so, it may be time to upgrade to a lithium battery, with benefits including a longer lifespan, increased efficiency, and lighter weight. Switching to lithium can be a game changer for your RV life. And the best part? For most RVs, it's an easy and affordable upgrade you can do yourself.

In this article, we'll guide you through the steps to upgrade your RV lead acid battery to lithium so you can start enjoying the freedom of more reliable power on your travels. This can be a super simple upgrade that makes a huge difference in available power without breaking the bank.

Over the years, we have done lithium battery upgrades on three of our four RVs. While installing lithium batteries (and solar) in our Class A motorhome was a much bigger, more complex job that required assistance from others. Upgrading from lead acid to lithium batteries on our Class C motorhome and Casita camper were both straightforward DIY drop-in replacements.

Let's start with an overview of the benefits of lithium batteries in RVs. Then, we'll cover each battery upgrade, including power data, battery specs, gear used, the cost, and the time it took. We cover the Casita camper install first, then the Class C motorhome install.

If you are not already familiar with RV lithium batteries and why RVers are swapping their original lead acid batteries for lithium, here is a quick list of why they are superior.

With lithium having so many benefits over lead acid, it is easy to see why you might want to make the swap. Those who would not see as much benefit likely spend their RV trips hooked up to power in a campground. But some of the above benefits can benefit every RVer, regardless of how you use your RV.

If you have been following us for a while, you probably know we did a massive lithium battery upgrade in our previous Class A full-time RV. This was a massive upgrade that completely transformed our RV into an amazing off-grid home on wheels. We could even do our Ultimate RV Makeover powered entirely by our solar and lithium batteries.

That system included adding 600 amp hours of Battle Born Batteries (6 x 100 ah batteries), plus 1020 watts of solar panels, a new inverter, a converter, a charge controller, and massive changes to the wiring and electrical system in the RV. That was a significant investment in time and money, resulting in a powerful and life-changing upgrade. If you want more information about that power system, you can check out our article and video in Episode 5 of our RV Makeover Series. There's a great explanation in there.



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That setup enabled us to boondock for extended periods in our full-time RV life. Several weeks at a time. And use all kinds of household appliances and tools in our daily life. But that's a lot more power than you may really need.

Also, many may not feel confident making significant changes to their RV electrical systems. Nor do they want to need to spend too much money. They want a simple, affordable drop-in battery replacement to reap the benefits. So that is the focus of this article--simple drop-in replacement upgrades to lithium batteries in RVs and campers.

OK, we shared some of the many benefits of upgrading RV batteries to lithium. Plus, a quick overview of our big previous power upgrade. Now, let's dive into the details of the two simple and relatively inexpensive drop-in replacement battery upgrades we did on our two most recent RVs.

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