



Replacing rv batteries with lithium

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There are some simple truths about installing lithium batteries in an RV that get buried by complexities and misinformation. Some may find it beneficial to convert their RV to lithium, while others may not. Whether you're thinking about making the switch or just want to know the truth, our discussion about installing lithium batteries will clear things up.

You'll learn about the benefits lithium batteries offer, the best place to install lithium-ion RV batteries, and the other components you'll need to complete the project. We'll also show you how those with 30-amp RVs can make the conversion over to lithium batteries without frying their electrical system.

In our discussion, we'll mention the various electrical measurements like amps, amp-hours, volts, and watts. If you need a quick review of this electric jargon, check out Camper Report's explanation.

Before we start talking about the installation process, there are some simple truths we want to cover that prove lithium batteries are good for RVs. There's a lot of information floating around and many different versions of lithium-ion batteries in the marketplace. Unfortunately, many people can't talk about these batteries without broaching the subject of RV solar panel systems. So, let's clear some things up:

You need to know some other simple truths to determine the lithium battery size you need for your travel trailer or motorhome. Most RVs on the road today use Group 27 batteries. Some of the Classic Era (1971-1989) or earlier may use Group 24, Group 29, or Group 31 versions. One of the few components to standardize in the RV industry by the late 20th century was the house battery.

Generally, RVers keep it easy by purchasing 100 amp-hour capacity batteries for two reasons:

Lithium-Ion batteries come in 12, 24, and 48-volt versions. You'll find them with capacities between 50-500 Ah.

If you check your RV's house battery bay, 50-amp RVs (ones with the 4-prong shoreline) have two 12-volt batteries. 30 amp travel trailers and motorhomes (3-prong electric cords) have two 6-volt batteries. Those with the higher amperage may feel they don't have anything to worry about, but many 30-amp RVers may have concerns about installing lithium batteries.

YES, 30-amp RVs can use lithium batteries. RV manufacturers install two 6-volt batteries as a precaution. If one goes bad, there's another in place. From an electrical standpoint, installing a lithium battery rated at 12-volts is the same as two 6-volts.



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Lithium-ion batteries are very hardy technology, so relying on one LiFePO4 battery is a safe bet. The best lithium-ion batteries have the BMS within the housing, acting as a monitor. If the battery becomes too cold or is too low on energy, the system will shut the battery down for safety.

It's been hard to find a campsite during the Remote Period of the Modern Era's (2020- Present) RV boom. Dry camping has become a substitute for campgrounds and has its RV lifestyle advantages. Electric power can make long boondocking experiences more comfortable.

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