

BatteryBack Plc

Helping you to help Britain
Recycle Batteries



September 2009

BatteryBack

BatteryBack.org



Introduction

This booklet is intended for collectors of waste portable batteries that are not obligated battery retailers.

We want to help you help the environment. **BatteryBack** offer a national collection service and free treatment for all types of batteries.

To help ensure Britain meets its legal commitment to achieve 25% recycling by 2012 and 45% recycling by 2016, we all need to help. Britain is currently one of Europe's poorest battery recyclers, achieving only 2.8% recycling in 2008. Together, we can lead the way to compliance.

From the **1 January 2010** importers of batteries have a legal requirement to fund battery recycling in the UK.

From the **1 February 2010** retailers have a duty to take back used batteries from their customers.

Many organisations such as schools, local authorities, non-battery retailers and businesses also want to help recycle batteries and ensure they are not discarded and end up in landfill.

BatteryBack is a leading battery compliance scheme and is offering to help all organisations collect and recycle all types of batteries.

This booklet has been prepared to help you start to collect batteries within your organisation and from employees and customers, as well as answer frequently asked questions.

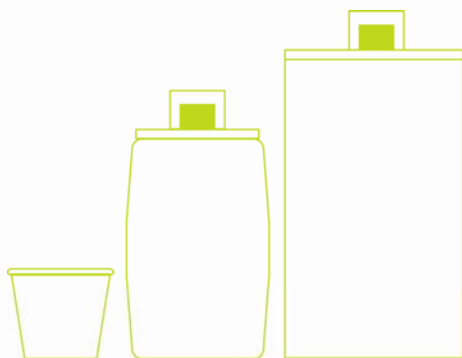
Every effort has been made to ensure the information is both accurate and up to date. If in doubt please contact our helpline.

The information provided is our interpretation of the Waste Batteries and Accumulators Regulations 2009 and does not constitute a contract or undertaking.



Battery Storage Instructions

- Only waste portable batteries should be placed into the BatteryCans provided
- Batteries should be kept dry
- The BatteryCans are suitable for all types of portable batteries



Containers are UN approved

5ltr Bucket

- capacity: 10Kg
- H: 18.5cm x D:22.5cm

60ltr Container(indoor)

- capacity: 110Kg
- H: 77cm x 57.5cm

120ltr Container(outdoor)

- capacity: 220Kg
- H: 82cm x D:43cm

- When a BatteryCan is nearing its capacity, a collection can be arranged by using the following contact details:
- Helpline – **0844 8005671**
- Email – **recycling@batteryback.org**
- The maximum response time for a collection request is 7 working days. A driver will arrive on site and either decant the batteries into a larger receptacle and leave your containers on site to be used again (5ltr counter tops), or simply exchange your whole container for a new one (60ltr and 120ltr)



F.A.Q.

Q What happens to the batteries once they have been collected in?

A The batteries are sorted into chemical type, bulked up and then sent on to our treatment facilities for recycling. Base metals are recovered for re-use in industry. For further information please visit www.batteryback.org/battery-recycling.html

Q What are the environmental benefits of battery recycling?

A Before these regulations came into force most batteries were discarded into landfill. Batteries contain various hazardous metals such as Lead, Mercury, Cadmium, Zinc, Manganese and Lithium. It can be damaging to the environment to dispose of them through landfill and burning batteries also causes atmospheric pollution. In addition, the resources that can be gained from the batteries are the very same materials being mined (at great cost) in other parts of the world. By helping to recycle batteries not only are you helping the environment but also helping to keep down the cost of new batteries.

Q How does Britain compare with the rest of Europe?

A We currently recycle less than 3% of portable batteries, whereas Belgium recovers over 50%. We do not compare very well; in fact we have one of the worst records in Europe. Recycling batteries is 10 times more expensive than sending them to landfill and up until now the Government has done little to encourage better recycling rates. In Belgium there is a small levy on every battery to cover the cost of their recycling! In Britain, producers are expected to pick up the cost of collection and recycling. Each of us can help keep down the cost of batteries by putting our used batteries in a BatteryCan near you, over the next year we expect there will be over 30,000 collection points in the UK. This includes; all major retailers, all businesses selling over 32kg pa, all civic amenity sites, council and government buildings. To find out the location of your nearest BatteryCan collection point please visit www.batteryback.org/battery-collection.html



Q Can I get more or larger BatteryCans?

A Yes of course! We have 2 larger containers; a 60ltr indoor container (fashioned in the form of a battery) and an outdoor 120ltr drum. Both options feature an eye-catching design or can be customised if required and are UN approved. For further details please contact 0844 8005671 or visit our website www.batteryback.org

Q Do I need a waste management license to store waste batteries?

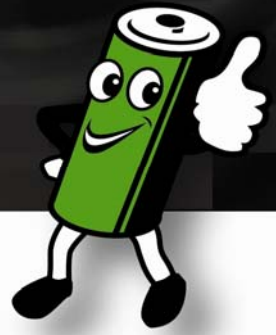
A You need to apply to the Environment Agency (SEPA in Scotland, NIEA in Northern Ireland) for an Exemption to the Waste Management Regulations. BatteryBack will do this on your behalf when you register as an Approved Battery Collection Point. There is no cost to you. The EA will not accept registration until January 2010.

Q What collection infrastructure does BatteryBack have in place?

A In terms of dealing with waste batteries, the combined collection, infrastructure and treatment network from both Veolia and WasteCare gives BatteryBack a huge head start. In essence BatteryBack control all aspects of the disposal journey, from collections, to sorting, treatment and eventual 98% recovery. This gives BatteryBack greater control over potential treatment costs. BatteryBack is continually seeking to complement the existing arrangements with other waste collection providers to help keep down the costs to the producer members.

Q Will I incur any costs?

A BatteryBack will treat all types of portable batteries free of charge. Normally collections will also be free. Collecting small volumes (below 30kg) are not usually considered environmentally best practice. BatteryBack reserve the right to charge a handling charge for small collections unless it is along side the collection of other waste.



Q What can I do if I do not have enough space to have a BatteryCan?

A The dimensions of our smallest BatterCan (5ltr counter-top design) are 18.5cm high x 22.5cm diameter. If space is at a premium, the container can be kept under the counter or even in a store room. If it proves to be too big, we will work with the customer until we can find a solution!

Q Can I get larger BatteryCans?

A Yes of course. We have 2 larger containers; a 60 ltr indoor BatteryCan as well as an outdoor 120 ltr BatteryDrum.

Q Can I move batteries to a central location prior to collection?

A Batteries in quantities over 333kg are considered hazardous for transportation. Seek advice before moving them. For small quantities they are safe to move as long as you follow the guidelines on the safety information page.

Q Can I get other waste collected at the same time?

A Yes! BatteryBack keeps costs to a minimum by arranging batteries to be collected with other waste streams. Reduce your carbon footprint, please visit www.veoliaenvironmentalservices.co.uk or www.wastecare.co.uk for full details on a range of other waste collections and recycling services.



Safety Information

Some batteries contain hazardous materials such as Cadmium (Cd), Lead (Pb), Lithium (Li) and Mercury (Hg). Although these are hazardous to the environment and can be dangerous to health, batteries are safe if handled correctly. Please follow these simple instructions;

- Do not break open batteries. Dust particles released are hazardous
- Do not allow batteries to get wet. For instance, Lithium can spontaneously combust if in contact with water
- Do not expose batteries to excessive heat or fire. Batteries may explode in fire releasing toxic fumes
- Do not short out batteries (i.e. allow the positive and negative terminals of the batteries to touch). Sudden discharges may cause heat or fire
- Do not mix dry batteries (sealed) with wet batteries (unsealed, such as lead acid). Leaking acid can cause damage and is a risk to human health
- Never use steel containers for storage. These can cause batteries to short out suddenly causing a fire or react with acids to create hazardous fumes. Always use properly labelled plastic containers

Simply, be sensible and portable batteries are safe to handle. Always follow the instructions provided. If in doubt, contact our helpline on **0844 800 5671**.



Do not put batteries in the waste bin



Contact BatteryBack

Regulatory Helpline: 0844 800 5671

Email: regulations@batteryback.org

Web: www.batteryback.org

Address: BatteryBack Plc
Richmond House
Garforth
Leeds
LS25 1NB

Thank you for helping us to recycle batteries