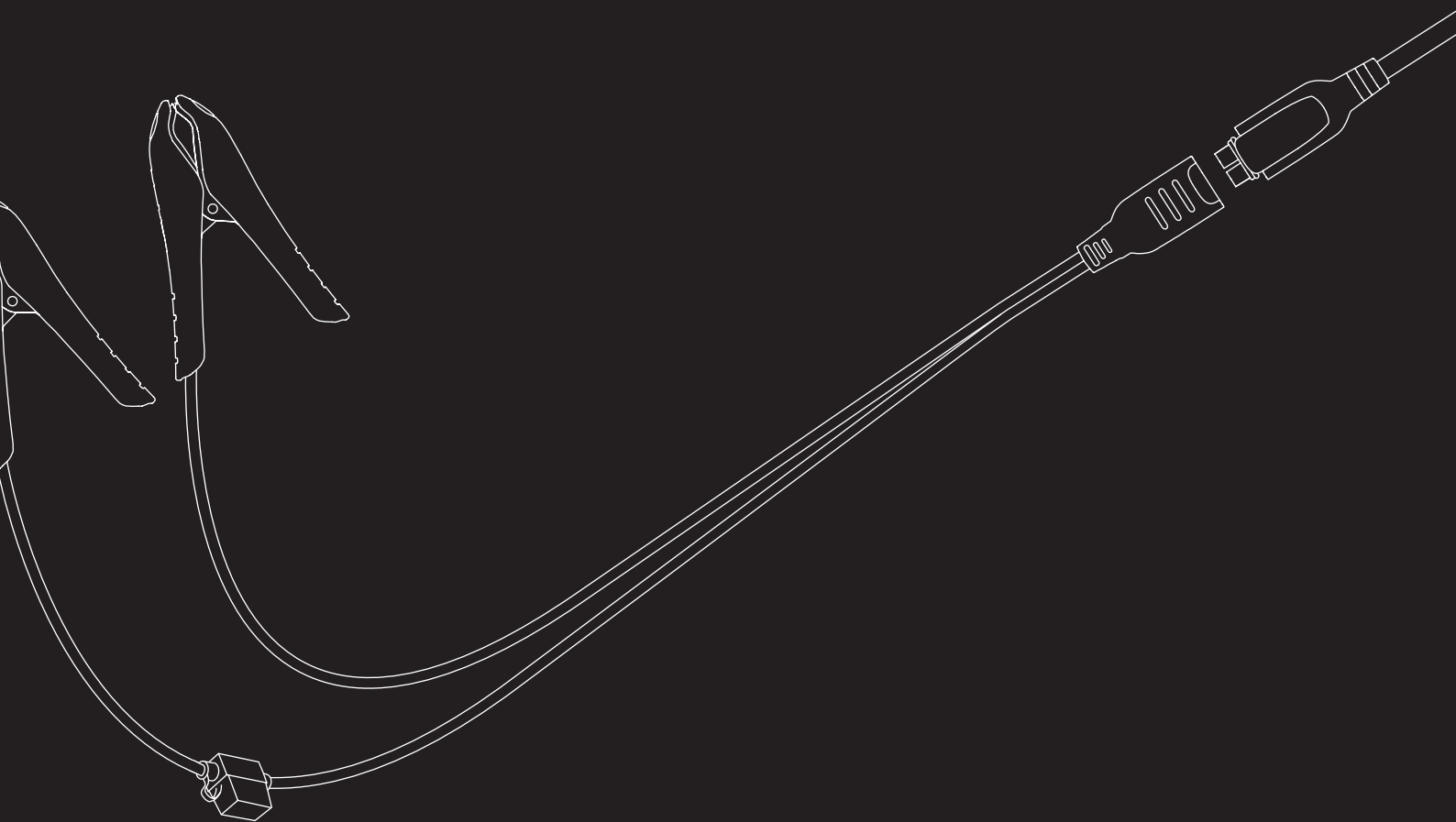


CTEK

FAQ

ACCESSORIES



Can I use your CONNECT CIG PLUG to charge the battery through the cigarette socket in my car?

Yes, but you should check that you have voltage to the socket even if the vehicle is switched off. If, for example, you can charge a mobile phone or get a GPS to work when the car ignition is switched off, you can also charge the car battery this way.

I have an INDICATOR connected to the battery in my car. The red lamp flashes even after I've fully charged the battery. Should it do this?

The CTEK INDICATOR is exactly what the name says – an indicator. It provides a snapshot of the system voltage level and works best when the battery has reached a rest level (this can take up to a few hours to reach after the battery was used). As soon as you open a car door or turn on the ignition, the battery voltage will temporarily drop and the indicator shows yellow or even red. To make things easier, you can position the INDICATOR where you can see it without having to unlock or use any voltage in the car. If it only ever shows red even whilst being charged – it may be a faulty unit.

I have an INDICATOR connected to the battery all the time. Is there any risk of the battery discharging?

No, the purpose of the indicator is to allow you to quickly and easily see whether the battery must be charged, thereby reducing the risk of the battery being damaged because of being discharged. The INDICATOR uses about 1.5mA. That gives 1,5 Ah /month. An average self-discharge for a battery is approx.. 10 Ah/month.

How do I interpret the colour markings on my INDICATOR?

GREEN: battery voltage is over 12.65 = battery is fully charged and does not require charging.

YELLOW: battery voltage is between 12.65 and 12.4V = battery is well charged. Recharge if you have time and opportunity.

RED: battery voltage is below 12.4V = time for charging to prevent battery damage.

My COMFORT INDICATOR is flashing. Is that, OK?

INDICATOR always flashes. It is to save battery power, as flashing draws less current than a steady light.

Can I charge my vehicle through the cig-socket?

Yes, if your socket is live when the ignition is turned off.

Check the vehicle user manual, contact your vehicle retailer or test with any cig-plug device, if your vehicle supports the function.

What is AGM?

AGM stands for Absorbed Glass Mat and differs from a standard Flooded battery in that the electrolyte is held on a fibre glass mat and pressed against the active plate area, instead of being allowed to flood around the plates. This type of battery has a low internal resistance and can accept charge very quickly making it ideal for the modern start stop systems. If the battery casing should become damaged the electrolyte will not leak out.

What is EFB or ECM?

EFB stands for Enhanced Flooded Battery, ECM stands for enhanced cyclic mat, two different names for the same type of battery and both are similar in set up to a standard Flooded battery. There are some design changes with this technology, active plate material is more dense, anti-corrosion treatment for negative and positive grid and lower specific gravity to improve charge acceptance are just some of the differences. The EFB battery provides a more cost-effective battery solution over more expensive AGM type batteries.

What is CA/CA?

Calcium/Calcium batteries are a flooded low maintenance or maintenance free battery usually VRLA type. During construction some of the Antimony used in the construction is replaced by Calcium (2% approx.). The benefits are a more robust grid, low water loss and longer shelf life.

What is WET/ FLOODED?

The Flooded battery consists of a series of negative plates (sponge lead) and positive plates (Lead Dioxide) separator material and an Electrolyte solution which is approx. 65% water 35% Sulphuric acid. The flooded type of battery can be vented (which can be topped up) or VRLA which is sealed.

What is MF/VRLA?

MF or Maintenance free also known as a VRLA or Valve Regulated Battery type battery is a flooded battery with the addition of Calcium / Silver to the grid material to reduce gassing and water loss. The battery becomes a small pressure vessel by the addition of a pressure valve (instead of the vents in a standard battery) designed to retain gasses created during charging process - Hydrogen and Oxygen within the battery long enough to recombine into water, which replenishes the electrolyte level. Because of this process these batteries are also called recombination batteries.

What is GEL?

The Gel battery differs from any other lead acid battery because the electrolyte is no longer a fluid, Silica is added to create an electrolyte Gel which is applied to the active surface area of the plate. If the battery casing should become damaged the electrolyte will not leak out.

What is SPIRAL CELL?

A very distinctive looking battery, and very similar internally to the AGM battery. But instead of the plates being flat they are wound together very tightly into a cylindrical shape, which gives the battery its name Spiral cell. If the battery casing should become damaged the electrolyte will not leak out.

What is LiFePO₄?

The lithium iron phosphate (LiFePO₄) battery is a totally different technology from all the lead acid types mentioned previously. Due to its low weight and high-power output, it has become very popular in weight critical environments such as Powersports etc. The replacement cost of the unit at present makes its application restricted.

What is STRATIFICATION?

In a deeply discharged flooded battery or a flooded battery that has not been used for several weeks the acid in the electrolyte begins to sink to the bottom of the battery - since the acid is heavier than water. Because the acid in the electrolyte is no longer evenly distributed across the whole of the active plate area, the performance of the battery is reduced. The top of the plates in the battery with a very low acid content perform poorly when compared to the lower part of the plates where the acid concentration is higher. This leads to several problems - Increased corrosion, Increased erosion, sulphation and a poorly performing battery are just a few.

What does SoC mean?

SoC means State of Charge and gives the state of charge as a percentage. A battery that has 11.65V (or less) is flat and has SoC 0. A battery with 12.76V (or more) is fully charged and has SoC 100.

What charger is suitable for my vehicle?

Choosing the right charger can be determined by the Ah size of your battery. The more amps the charger can deliver, the larger the battery capacity it will charge. The website will give ideal battery size range for each charger in their technical specification or use our Charger Selection Chart for recommendations.

What aspects should I think about when choosing a charger?

You should think about 3 things when choosing a charger:

1. How large the battery you want to charge is.
2. How discharged it will be before you get a chance to recharge it.
3. How quickly you need the battery to fully recharge.

If the battery is large, completely flat and must be charged quickly! Then you should choose a powerful charger such as the MXS 25 or M300.

If you instead want to be sure that your motorcycle battery is charged and is kept charged no matter whether you are going to use it tomorrow or in 6 months, then time is not so important and a small charger will work well.

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