



Gang Charger Reference Guide

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Checking Voltage

To check the voltage of a battery, turn the Battery Select dial to the channel you want to see (1 through 6) and turn the switch to 'Display'. In general, you will want to charge a battery when it gets to the 5.8-6.0 range. Fully charged it should register 6.4 or higher. Normally, a battery at 5.8 can be fully recharged in 12 hours. **Note:** If you are using an adapter to connect directly to the charge port of a TRAX recorder, the voltage will not be displayed.

Charging Batteries

To charge a battery, connect it to one of the 1 through 6 pigtails and turn the switch to 'Charge'. The light for the number you have connected to will go out while the battery is receiving a charge. Once the battery is fully changed, the light will come on, letting you know charging is complete.

Battery Care

Battery life is dependent on the user's preventative maintenance procedures. Establish regular routines for all of your batteries regardless of their usage.

Your traffic counter depends on a fully charged battery to operate efficiently and to produce reliable and correct data. Batteries should not be allowed to sit in a discharged state for any length of time. Once the battery discharges below 5.3 volts, damage to the cells has already begun. Symptoms include:

- 1. The battery will not charge to its full capacity of 6.4 volts or higher.
- 2. The battery will only hold its charge for a short time under load.
- 3. The battery discharges faster than normal during storage under no load.

With this in mind, leave your battery in the counter until the voltage discharges to 6.0 or 5.9 volts under normal use, then recharge the battery to its highest potential (normally from 6.4 volts and up). A good battery may charge as high as 7.0 volts or better. A defective battery may not charge any higher than 6.0 volts after a reasonable charge time. Charge time will vary with the level of the battery voltage. Usually, a battery of 5.9 volts can be charged to its highest potential in 12 hours or less.

After a battery has been charged, allow it to sit for at least 8 hours and check the voltage again to determine if the battery maintained its charge. Some decay is acceptable; however, if the battery falls below 6.0 volts, recharge it for a longer period of time. If this does not improve the charge, the battery is most likely defective and it would not be wise to use it for any lengthy data collections. Monitor your battery voltages frequently, charging when necessary, and you will extend the life of your battery.

Additional Battery Care Notes

- It is normal for a battery to become warm to the touch during charging.
- It is normal for a battery to "self discharge" during prolonged storage. Always fully charge a battery prior to storage. While in storage, periodically check the batteries with a voltmeter to ensure they have not discharged below a level that may cause permanent damage.
- Always store in a cool, dry location.
- Do not short circuit battery terminals. Some batteries are protected with self-resetting fuses, but short circuits may still cause severe damage to the battery.
- Keep batteries away from fire and do not incinerate they may explode.
- Under no circumstances should you attempt to open the battery case.
- Do not expose the battery to moisture or rain.
- Do not drop, hit or abuse the battery it may break and expose the contents, which are highly corrosive.
- Always observe polarity when connecting your battery to any electronic/electrical device. If your device is not protected for improper battery hookup, you may cause severe damage to the electronic circuitry. The positive terminal may be indicated by a plus (+) sign or red mark. The negative terminal may be indicated by a minus (-) sign or black mark.



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