

Working Title: 5 Top Tips for Extending the Life of Your Wheelchair Battery

Target Keyword(s): Karma Medical, Karma Wheelchairs, etc.

Target Persona(s): Karma wheelchair users who want to learn how to look after their wheelchair battery. Let Karma users know the simple do's and don'ts of how to maintain their wheelchair battery. Let Karma users feel like Karma cares about their wellbeing.

Lifecycle stage: Retention

Length: 514 words

References:

<https://www.karma.com.tw/2018/07/wheelchair-blog-electric-2/>

<https://www.passionatepeople.invacare.eu.com/charge-maintain-battery-power-wheelchair/>

<https://www.sunrisemedical.com/livequickie/blog/july-2020/7-tips-maintaining-your-power-wheelchair-batteries>

<https://www.karma.com.tw/2018/07/wheelchair-blog-electric-2/>

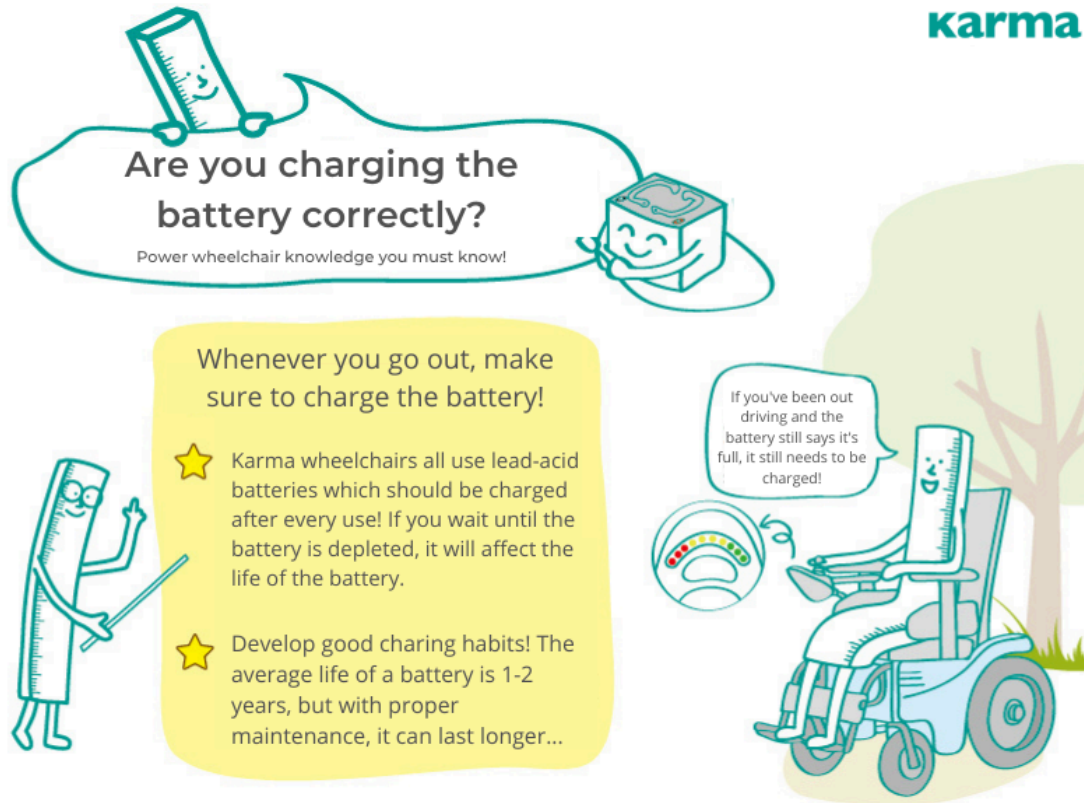
<https://www.passionatepeople.invacare.eu.com/power-wheelchair-battery-how-to-maintain/>

Notes:

5 Top Tips for Extending the Life of Your Wheelchair Battery

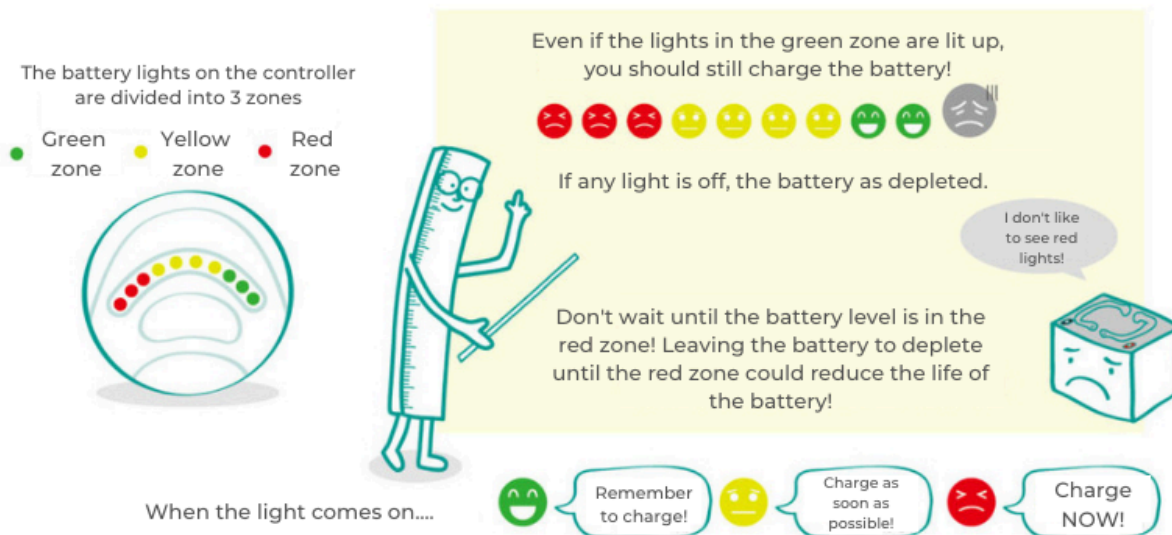
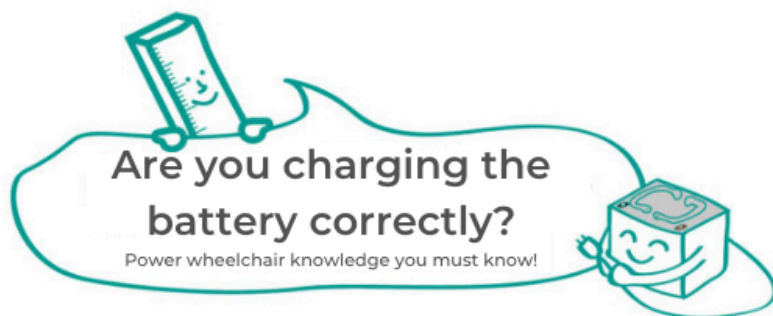
There are 5 key ways to maintain and use lead-acid batteries. In this blog, we are going to explain the different ways that might shorten the life of the battery as well as how to maintain it:

- How to correctly charge the battery
- What to do when driving uphill
- How to manage the wheelchair load
- How to maintain the motor
- What is the correct driving method



1. How to correctly charge the battery

The general rule of thumb when it comes to lead-acid batteries is that, if you have used them, you should recharge them. No matter how much or little the battery has depleted. **Do not let the battery become completely flat before charging it.** If you wait until the battery is almost depleted before charging it, it will drastically reduce the life of the battery.



2. What to do when driving uphill

Driving uphill will consume more battery compared to driving on flat ground. Of course, if you cannot avoid driving uphill then just make sure to keep an eye on the battery level so that it doesn't get too low and charge it as soon as you can! **Don't use the maximum battery energy or speed when driving uphill and avoid long periods of driving uphill.**



3. How to manage the wheelchair load

The heavier the load on the electric wheel, the higher the power consumption. For example, if you load the wheelchair with heavy items or someone rides on the back of the wheelchair (as pictured) the wheelchair will require more power to power it. If it can be avoided, try not to

overload the wheelchair or exceed the maximum weight capacity.



(Picture taken from the Internet)

4. How to maintain the motor

If there is a problem with the life of the battery, it doesn't necessarily mean that it is broken. Sometimes the motor will consume more power than normal because heavier loads of it have come to the end of its service life. Check your battery performance every 6 months, paying special attention to any abnormal sounds in the rear of the chair.

5. What is the correct driving method

Similar to a car, abruptly stopping and starting whilst driving will consume more battery power compared to a consistent and smooth drive. Sharp turns around corners will also consume more power compared to gradual turning. When moving around in confined spaces, opt to use a slower speed to avoid constant stopping. **Low tire pressure will also increase power consumption so ensure that the tire pressure is sufficient for a smooth drive.**

Regular battery maintenance = longer battery life

The most important thing to remember is **to not let the battery become completely flat before charging it**. This is the most important thing to remember when it comes to lead-acid batteries.

If you let the battery run flat before charging it, it will seriously decrease the life of the battery! If you still encounter problems with the battery after following these maintenance suggestions, you can [contact Karma customer service!](#)