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How many volts to charge lawn mower battery

Battery technology has advanced to the point where the benefits have now extended to lawn care. If you're in the market for a lawnmower, then a cordless, battery powered one will be a great choice — they're a less expensive, less noisy, and eco-friendly option. When it comes to battery powered mowers, however, the market is filled with options. Some are better than others at certain things, and some just better overall. In the guide below, we'll walk you through a few features you should consider given how much you're willing to spend, the size of your lawn, and others. Do You Need a Battery Powered Lawn Mower? The best reason to choose a battery powered mower over a conventional, gas-powered one is that it will save you money in the long run. Gas-powered mowers might cost less upfront, but your maintenance expenses will catch up eventually. Indeed, the cost of gasoline and oil changing alone can run into the hundreds of dollars a year. The electricity you'll be using to power up a cordless mower, on the other hand, will be much less expensive and will have the added benefit of a smaller carbon footprint. Battery powered lawn mower don't produce the loud noises that one can expect from a conventional, gas-powered mower Another advantage is that battery powered mowers are less noisy, which means you can mow your lawn as early in the morning as you like without having to worry about waking the neighbors. To be sure, a corded electric mower will cost about as much as a battery powered one, in the long run, will typically be more powerful pound-for-pound, and will be cheaper to purchase upfront. But the downside is that you'll need an outlet in which to plug it directly, and the extension cord will not only get in the way, it will necessarily limit your range. Battery powered motors are cheaper to run and maintain than their gas-powered counterparts. They are more environmentally friendly. They don't produce the loud noises that one can expect from a conventional, gas-powered mower. They don't need to be plugged-in like corded mowers do. Types of Battery Powered Lawn Mowers Push Mowers Push mowers, like their name suggests, don't have the ability to self-propel, which means that one will need to exert effort to push them. Some push mowers are lightweight and won't require a whole lot of effort to be pushed, while some push mowers — particularly mowers designed for bigger yards — will definitely require a good amount of effort, and might even be especially difficult to operate over uneven terrain. Needless to say, some manufacturers have tried to bridge this gap by designing their push mowers to be lightweight, and a lot have had some success. Today, there are battery powered push mowers available in the market that are both light and easy to maneuver because of their large wheels. What's more, because push mowers have no propulsion gearbox, they are often less expensive than self-propelled ones. Self Propelled Mowers A self-propelled mower won't require much effort to push on account of the transmission that drives its wheels. Somewhat like vehicles, self-propelled mowers can either be front-wheel or rear-wheel driven, and all the user needs to do is steer the machine. When it comes to hilly and uneven terrain, self-propelled mowers will be easier to use, and will necessarily reduce the time needed to mow a large area. Among the downsides of a self-propelled mower is that they are more expensive (sometimes twice the price), harder to maintain, and more difficult to store owing to their hefty dimensions. What to Look for When Buying Battery Powered Lawn Mowers Before choosing what kind of battery powered mower to buy, you first need to determine your yard requirements. How big is it, and how long do you think you'll need to be working? If your yard work is longer than your mower's battery runtime will permit, you can check out our review of the Best Lawn Mower Batteries in the market. For small to medium-sized yards (no bigger than 1/8 of an acre), a mower with a 16-inch cutting width and a 30-minute runtime will be more than sufficient. Naturally, for bigger yards, bigger cutting width and runtime might be needed. The type of mower you need to get will be wholly dependent on the type of yard work you'll be doing. Today, there is little reason to get anything other than a battery powered mower because they are simply better to use Best Battery Powered Lawn Mowers FAQs: Since the market is filled with different battery powered lawn mowers to choose from, picking one out of the bunch can be confusing. We fully expect buyers to have a lot of questions before making their pick, so we've rounded up the most common questions about battery powered lawn mowers to help you gather as much information as possible. Q: What's the best battery powered lawn mower? The answer will of course depend on the type of yard work one needs to do, but in our opinion, the Greenworks G-MAX 40V 16-inch Cordless Lawn Mower offers the best balance of features and price, making it our overall top pick. Q: Can you use a battery powered lawn mower on wet grass? It's generally best to mow during dry conditions because wet grass tends to clump together and either clog the deck or cause damage to the blades. That being said, it's not dangerous to mow wet grass with a cordless, battery powered mower as long as the water doesn't go to the top of the mower where the electric motor is. Q: How long do battery powered lawn mowers last? A well-maintained battery powered mower lasts, on average, up to five years. Our Top Pick We're sure that it's clear based on our review and buying guide why we've chosen the Greenworks G-MAX 40V 16-inch Cordless Lawn Mower as our top pick. For us, it simply has the best balance of price and features, and it is an excellent all-around choice when it comes to most yards. Final Thoughts The Greenworks G-MAX 40V 16-inch Cordless Lawn Mower ticks the most boxes for us, and we're sure it will tick the most boxes for the average consumer, too. If you need a more affordable (but still feature-rich) option, then check out the Black and Decker 3-in-1 Compact Mower. If your lawn mower is in need of a new battery, why not give it a complete upgrade? There are plenty of different battery sizes, performance levels, and more to choose from — which means there's no reason to settle for a basic battery. No matter what kind of lawn mower you need a battery for, there's a quality option out there that'll perform for your needs. Of course, the tricky part is choosing the best option out of the many available. That's why we've put together a lawn mower battery buying guide. Here, you'll discover the most important features to look for, find answers to common battery questions, and get all of the guidance you need to choose the best product for your exact mower. Benefits of Lawn Mower Batteries When you get a lawn mower battery, there are a few ways you can expect to benefit. Ever tried using a low-powered battery on your flashlight? Did you notice how much dimmer it was? Well, the same is true with lawn mower batteries. They give you the necessary amount of power and energy to get your outdoor chores done. Of course, the benefits are more far-reaching than that. Using a battery-powered battery is often better than those with a cord (or gas-powered for that matter). The lawnmower stays lightweight and unencumbered by the restrictions of the length of your electrical cord. You can use it just about anywhere; and, when you find the right battery, it will last as long as you need it. Lawn mower batteries offer you the necessary amount of power and the ability to recharge them. Unlike using gas, a consumable source that requires physical refills, you can simply plug the battery into a charging station. It enhances the utility of the battery, along with its overall lifespan. Batteries work for long periods and provide a steady, reliable supply of power to the motor. You don't require a supply of gas or an electrical cord (and plug-in) to power the lawnmower. High-quality batteries that have well-structured interior cells are capable of lasting longer than other models. Battery-powered lawn mowers are more portable, especially since you can bring along a spare battery when you do off-site projects. Like a car battery, you can boost a lawn mower battery to bring it back to life. Lawn mower batteries tend to charge quickly, making lighter work of lawn maintenance. Popular Types of Lawn Mower Batteries Batteries are subject to voluntary standards as set forth by the United States Consumer Product Safety Commissions. As a result, most batteries for specific devices, like lawnmowers, tend to be quite similar. That said, not all batteries are made the same just as not all lawn equipment is made alike. The vast majority of batteries are standardized at 12 volts, simply because that is how most lawn mowers are made. Though the voltage is consistent, the structure and chemicals used in the batteries do differ. 12-Volt Batteries Easily the most common type of lawn mower battery, 12-volt options come in all shapes and sizes. Since most lawnmowers require a power source of this voltage, this type continues to be the most prevalent on the market. Bear in mind that you can find lower voltage options if needed. In most cases, the battery runs on a lithium-ion chemical structure. The dense chemical component holds potential energy in chemical bonds until it converts that power into electricity for the motor. There are other formulas, such as lithium-sulfur and thin film, each offering different advantages in terms of lasting power and recharge speed. The batteries come encased in an inert material which, most of the time, consists of a polymer. The thickness and stability of this case directly impact its ability to resist damage. The battery must be capable of withstanding vibrations to ensure that it won't leak or spill. Trickle Charger This is a unique kind of battery since it works as a supplement to the existing batteries on the market. Instead of fitting into the place of the battery, it acts as an external power source that feeds the battery. A key reason this type is popular is that it is compatible with any battery structure. It is similar, though not the same, as a battery charger. In most cases, the trickle charger plugs into the wall and takes in the charge. Since the structure is so compact, you can simply keep it on hand, in case the power on your battery drops too low. The power bank feeds a steady amount of energy into the battery. This enables you to preserve your actual battery for longer. Ideal for unique lawn mowers where getting a replacement battery isn't as easy to do, trickle chargers enable you to keep using the mower without a retrofit. Keep in mind that, while some trickle chargers incorporate a power bank, not all of them do. It is better to stick with the options that don't need a live power source all the time. Push-Mower Batteries Though a lot of push mowers work with 12-volt batteries and thus fall into a different category, there are lawn mowers that require a higher voltage to operate. The batteries are often a bit smaller than their 12-volt counterparts yet larger than a trickle charger. This is because they are designed for smaller equipment. When looking for a push mower battery, the first thing to look at is how much power it requires. The electrical specifications will tell you precisely what amperage/voltage you require. From there, so long as the battery is properly encased and reasonably long-lasting, it is a good option. Keep in mind that push mower batteries tend to run out of steam faster than other options since they are designed for less demanding scenarios. Lawn Mower Battery What to Consider When Buying Lawn Mower Batteries When you go to pick your lawn mower battery, there are a couple of things you'll want to keep an eye out for. The first thing you need to do is check out the land the mower will be moving over. If the land is bumpy and hilly, you will want to pick a battery that is fortified against these issues. Choose something resistant to damage, both in terms of temperature and impact. This way, you can get the longest-lasting benefits out of it. Of course, it is more than a matter of quality. You want a lawn mower battery that fits onto your actual lawnmower. Though most are 12-volt, that doesn't mean that the anode and cathode placement are compatible with your setup. Be sure that it is designed to fit with your lawn care machine. To take it a step further, there are a few other things to think about. Structure. The shape and design of the battery are about more than the electrode placement. The battery has to be able to fit onto your lawnmower. Plus, it shouldn't be too heavy that it creates extra resistance. You want a balanced unit that fits seamlessly into your lawnmower. Recharge Speed. Eventually, you will need to recharge the battery, whether it died altogether or you tested the battery along the way. That said, this doesn't have to be a hefty time investment. Some models take a mere couple of hours to charge. It cuts down on maintenance demands and ensures that you can use the battery when you need to. Durability. A matter of strength, the battery needs to be sturdy both on the inside and the outside. Inside, higher-end versions include a type of pressed glass that absorbs vibrations. It prevents cracks that can lead to leaks and spills. The exterior structure is there to prevent damage from impact (flying rocks, etc.). Installation. You are going to need to place the battery on the lawnmower. Some designs make this easier than others. A good way to assess this is to check if it comes with the necessary hardware for setup. If the battery comes with everything you need to use it, then you can be certain that all the parts are compatible with the battery itself. Most Important Features of Lawn Mower Batteries Batteries all kind of seem identical at first glance. Sure, there can be differences in voltage and physical size — but otherwise, lawn mower batteries are a bit tricky to distinguish from one another. Yet there are important distinctions between different lawn mower batteries. And the littlest details can make a world of difference in power, performance, and longevity. To identify the best batteries out there, make sure you look for options that include the following features. Hardy Battery Terminals Your typical lawn mower battery offers basic terminals (which are also called electrode terminals). These are the two points of physical connection, where the battery becomes attached to your lawn mower. While every battery includes two — one positive, one negative — you'll want to make sure you look for hardy battery terminals. All terminals are made from metal, but hardy (or tough) metals are the best you can buy. Take a close look at what, exactly, a battery's terminals are made out of and read up on their durability. It's also a good idea to ensure the battery terminals are crafted from a highly conductive metal so your mower starts up easily. Cold Cranking Amps (CCA) A lawn mower battery's cold cranking amps (which are abbreviated as CCA) are another key feature you need to consider. This rating refers to the amperage a battery produces in 30 seconds while operating in a temperature of 0 degree. So if a lawn mower's battery touts 200 CCA, that means it can deliver 200 amps in 30 seconds when the temperature outside is quite cold. Why does this matter? Well, the cold cranking amps tell you how strong a battery is. Most batteries are powered up in temperatures much warmer than 0 degrees — so you can expect even better amperage and performance when you're operating your lawn mower in spring, summer, or fall. If a battery can work well in cold temperatures, you can expect increased strength in normal weather. So, the higher the CCA on a battery, the stronger and more powerful it'll be overall. Voltage Here's an easy feature to look for: voltage. The voltage of any lawn mower battery is reflective of the electrical current that passes through the battery and its systems. And if you don't choose a battery with a voltage that's compatible with your mower, it simply won't work properly. Most lawn mowers require a 12-volt battery, which is a very common voltage (and one that's easy to find). Ride-on mowers tend to only work with 12-volt options. However, some higher-powered push lawn mowers may be able to use more than 12 volts. Take a look at your lawn mower's owner's manual to determine exactly which voltage is the right fit for your own appliance. Lawn Mower Battery Care and Maintenance for Lawn Mower Battery Every tool requires a certain amount of upkeep to work optimally. Lawn mower batteries are no different. The good news, however, is that caring for them is fairly simple. Most of it is a matter of storing it responsibly and protecting the battery from damage. Naturally, you want to keep it in a cool, dry location where it won't encounter any bumps and bruises. Before installation, you want to be sure that the battery is fully charged. While some batteries come pre-charged, this is not true of all of them. Use the screen or light indicators to determine if it needs refueling. As with any chemical-based battery, it is important to handle charging properly. Recharging (and an occasional dusting) is all the upkeep the battery needs. So long as you take care of these needs, the lawn mower battery will keep working for as long as possible. Store the lawnmower, the battery, and any spares indoors or under a cover. Be sure that your connections are firm and reliable to prevent damage. Clean off the electrodes before you put it into place to optimize the connection. Don't overstrain the lawnmower since it can cause the battery to overheat. Allow the battery to drain fully before you recharge it to prevent chemical build up. Always charge the battery to the fullest amount possible. Best Lawn Mower Batteries FAQ: Since these batteries are so common and useful, it only makes sense that there are a few questions when it comes to making the right pick. Though some specifics differ based on the individual battery, some things remain true. We've addressed the most frequent inquiries to help you gather as much information as possible. Q: How long should a lawn mower battery last? Provided the battery is well cared for, it should remain functional for roughly three years. It depends on usage frequency, storage, and maintenance. Q: What could be draining my lawn mower battery? Failing to let the battery fully drain before fully recharging it can cause premature wear and tear on the system. Q: How do you reset a dead lawn mower battery? You might be able to boost the battery or use a trickle charger. Many opt to get a new battery since it is less time consuming and still cost-effective. Our Top Pick After careful consideration, we've named the ML18-12 Mighty Max Battery as our top pick. Given its firm structure and reliable casing, it is meant to withstand a lot of wear and tear. The chemical components are reliable, easy to recharge, and designed to last. Running on a 12-volt system, it is also highly compatible. Simple to install and consistently effective, this battery is an excellent choice overall. Final Thoughts Now that you are familiar with the nuances of lawn mower batteries, you can make your pick. It could be the ML18-12 Mighty Max Battery for its reliability or the cost-effectiveness of the Chrome Battery Lead-Acid Battery. There's a battery for every setup. Happy mowing! Sources:

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