



Stratification occurs when denser electrolyte sinks to the bottom of the battery, harming the battery's plates.

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50 percent depth of discharge will take six to eight hours to fully recharge. For safety reasons, overall charge time should be limited to 16 hours. Most chargers are programmed with this time limit as a safety feature.

In addition, batteries that are cold before beginning the charging cycle will take longer to charge, while batteries that are warm will take less time. This is not based on ambient temperature, but rather on the temperature of the electrolyte. Batteries that are very warm can deliver greater than 100 percent of the rated capacity, but operating a battery at higher temperatures also will decrease overall battery life.

The importance of adhering to regular battery maintenance and charging schedules cannot be stressed enough. Too often batteries are taken for granted with expectations that they will work anytime, anywhere regardless of whether or not they have been properly maintained throughout their lifecycles. Remember that a battery is only as good as the service it receives, so it is critical that regular maintenance practices be adhered to in order to achieve the highest-rated performance and lifecycle from your batteries.

Please visit Trojan Battery's website (www.trojanbattery.com/TrojanTips) to view our Trojan Tips video tutorial series, which will provide detailed information

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on a variety of battery technologies and maintenance practices.®

Vicki Hall is director of quality assurance and technical services for Trojan Battery Company.

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