Batteries



Batteries are used as a portable source of electricity. It is used in devices such portable radios, flashlights, remote control units and watches. A common battery is a zinc-carbon battery. It is sometimes called a dry cell. It has a voltage of 1.5 volts.





A non-renewable resource is something that once it is used, it cannot be used again. Non renewable resources are usually taken from the earth by mining. Since a battery is made up of non-renewable resources, when it is used up, it is no good anymore and it is thrown out in the garbage.



Zinc

Zinc is a metallic chemical element. It is the fourth most common metal in the world. It is mined from the earth in many places around the world. The main producers of Zinc are China, Australia and Peru. Zinc has a bluish pale gray appearance.



Carbon

Carbon is a very common element. It is the fourth most common element in the universe behind Hydrogen, Helium and oxygen. Carbon can be found in all life forms. The human body has a high amount of carbon. The English name carbon, comes from the Latin name *carbo* for coal and the French name *charbon* for charcoal.



Manganese Manganese is chemical element. Is it mined from the earth. The largest producers of Manganese are South Africa and Ukraine. Manganese has a silvery metallic appearance.

A battery is made by using a mixture of powdered carbon and manganese-oxide. This is packed around a carbon rod inside of a zinc metal casing.



An alternative to using non-reusable dry cell batteries is using rechargeable batteries. A rechargeable battery can be recharge many time which reduces the amount of waste then ends up in the landfill.



