

Battery Purchase Advice

Problem: What is your battery preference for a trailer such as my 2-battery Safari? I had read repeated good reviews of Walmart batteries but, sadly, mine failed by not holding a charge, after only about 2 yrs. Not to mention, my wife put a new one in her Camry 3 months ago and it would not start when we had a recent cold snap.

How do you feel about glass mat vs. standard lead plates?

Answer: AGL (glass mat) are far superior, however, they cost over \$200 each. This is not really worth the money for your application. I usually recommend Walmart's "best quality" deep cycle units because they are everywhere in the US and Canada. A good quality battery, which is available and warrantied across the country, is Interstate. Costco also provides a good quality battery at a reasonable price (I understand they have switched to Interstate as their supplier).

The battery that has the longest full reimbursement warranty is the best quality. They have the thickest plates and are specifically designed to last through the warranty period. They are built to fail during the proportional reimbursement period. This encourages the user to return for a new battery purchase.

Do you keep your batteries charged during the last winter? They can prematurely fail if they lose charge and are allowed to freeze. A trickle charger is fine.