



Short Safety Subject

Short Safety Subjects are provided by the Public Safety Business Center, Fort Bragg, NC. Our intent is to provide safety topics for the purpose of increasing safety awareness and improving safety performance. Additional Short Safety Subjects are available on the PSBC Business Management Web Site at:

www.bragg.army.mil/psbc-bm/PubsAndForms/ShortSafetySubjects.htm

Ten Things You Should Know About Jump-Starting A Car Battery



With the winter weather approaching, we should all be aware of how to safely jump-start our car's battery. Follow these 10 suggestions when getting your car back on the road.

Always wear a pair of splash-proof goggles.

Batteries contain hydrogen and oxygen, two flammable and explosive gasses. Never smoke or operate anything that may cause a spark when working on a battery. The gasses may ignite and cause the battery to explode.

Check your battery for damage such as cracks, corrosive materials and loose wires as often as you have your oil changed.

Make sure you have a pair of jumper cables that are rust and corrosion free and have no exposed wires. (Never use electrical tape to cover exposed wires.)

Make sure you buy a battery that is recommended in your car owner's manual.

Never throw an automobile battery in a garbage dumpster or leave it in a parking lot, especially if it is cracked or damaged. Take it to a service station and have it disposed of properly.

Never jump-start your battery if your car's fluids are frozen.

When buying a new battery make sure that its terminals are sturdy and large enough to allow the clamps of a pair of jumper cables to attach easily when jump-starting.

Always call a professional if you think there might be trouble you can't handle or if you can't remember how to jump-start a vehicle.