

Re: Another Novice Q. – recharging – Volts and Amps

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 - *Date:* Mon, 23 Jun 2008 16:23:09 –0400
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"Kris Krieger" <me@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:HN6dnUa5Bpt2esLVnZ2dnUVZ_h3inZ2d@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Apologies in advance if this is a dopey question, but, when it comes to recharging batteries, and using a solar cell to do that, what I've been assuming, based on th info that peopl ehere have kindly provided, and also that I've foind on–line, is that teh mA output of the solar cells should not exceed 2/10ths to maybe 3/10ths of the battery's mA rating, and teh voltage produced by the solar cells should be as close as possible to the total voltage of the battery or batteries. But I wanted to check whether that assumption is correct, becasue I think I'm getting closeto getting some parts and trying a couple of assemblies.

Thanks In Advance!

– Kris

Hi Kris,

Different batteries need different charging conditions.

Look at the specs for your batteries.

The charging requirements will be discussed.

Some batteries may say: Charge at .1c for 10 Hrs.

This means to charge them at one tenth the AH rating for 10 Hours.

The VPC (volts per cell) will also be specified.

For example: NiCads are about 1.2 VPC and can charge at about 1.3–1.5 VPC (follow manufacturers specs) at .1 –.3 c. (again, follow specs.).

So if you have a 12 volts NiCad pack that would be a 10 cell NiCad battery.

If you are using lead acid cells, the numbers are different.

Keep in mind that photo cell manufactures inflate their specs by using bright sunlight averages.

Tom

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