



IT'S A COLD, CRUEL WORLD FOR BATTERIES



IT'S A **CRUEL FACT** THAT WINTER WEATHER TURNS DRY CELL BATTERIES (CARBON, ZINC, OR ALKALINE) COLD.

AND COLD BATTERIES **MAY NOT DELIVER THE POWER** YOUR COMMO GEAR NEEDS.

THAT'S WHY **YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT COLD-RESISTANT BATTERIES AND COLD WEATHER BATTERY CARE.**

Cold-Resistant Batteries

Look at your equipment's TM and SB 11-6 for specific information on batteries for cold-weather operation. Both list primary battery-using equipment, battery type numbers, descriptions, storage temperatures and NSNs.

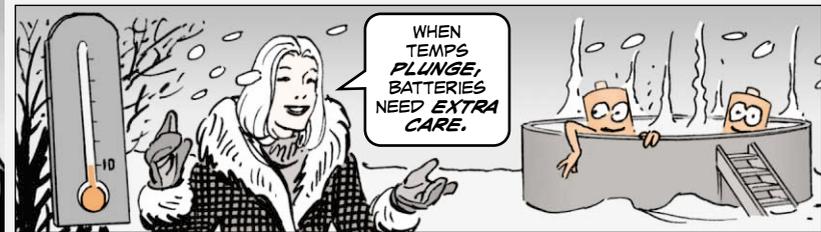
SB 11-6 can now be found on the internet. Access it at:

<https://www.logsa.army.mil/etms/online.htm>

Search for PIN number 079041. A user name and password are required to access SB 11-6. This web site also contains the latest on CECOM batteries and a link to battery safety messages.



Battery Care



Keep them stored until you're ready to move out. Then warm up only as many spares as you'll need. Lithium batteries won't need warming up unless they've been in temperatures below -20°F.

Protect dry cells by keeping them out of the cold and wind. Cover them with your clothing. Put them in a vehicle or commo shelter when possible. Sheltering batteries behind a wind break is better than leaving them out in the open. Putting them next to your body is best of all, but only if they are still in the original package. Otherwise, metal objects in your pockets could create short circuits.

Never stow batteries next to a heater or stove. That's too much warmth for most batteries and they could leak, vent or rupture.

Keep spare batteries handy so you can make a switch when the ones in your gear start to fade. When you remove batteries from your gear, put them in an inside, empty shirt pocket to warm up. After a while, they'll regain some of their punch.

If you won't be using your gear right away, don't install the batteries. Keep them warm as long as you can.

If you warm batteries in a heated place, watch for sweating. Wipe off any moisture or it will freeze.

Finally, if your gear has plastic pins in the battery compartment, take care when installing the battery. Cold pins become brittle. They'll break if they're handled too roughly.

