

# Safety Tips for Rechargeable Lithium-Ion Batteries

**Lithium-ion batteries (Li-Ion)** have become the first choice for applications that require rechargeable batteries. These batteries have higher specific capacity, energy density, and power density. These advantages allow the Li-Ion battery to support long-term operation and high-current usage, which are required by many of today's portable electronic devices such as cellphones and computers.

These batteries do present safety concerns. If the Li-Ion battery is short-circuited or exposed to high temperatures, it can lead to battery fires and explosions.



## DO

- **DO** charge your battery as specified by the manufacturer and use UL charging cables and plugs designed for that device.
- **DO** dispose of the batteries properly.
- **DO** cover all lithium battery terminals with tape and separate them from other batteries. Place into containers labeled **Lithium Batteries Only** at battery recycling locations in Orange County: [www.orangecountync.gov/WRC](http://www.orangecountync.gov/WRC)
- **DO** have a fire extinguisher available at your home or business.



## DON'T

- **DON'T** charge your battery with cables and plugs not designed for that device.
- **DON'T** dispose of Li-Ion batteries in your trash.
- **DON'T** damage or crush a Li-Ion battery.
- **DON'T** put Li-Ion batteries into a fire or expose them to high temperatures.



### FIRE SAFETY FIRST!

Over 60% of facility fires are caused by improper storage of Lithium Batteries.

For more information:  
[www.orangecountync.gov/FireSafety](http://www.orangecountync.gov/FireSafety)



Elizabeth Farnan, Division Chief, Fire & Life Safety  
**Orange County Emergency Services** • 510 Meadowlands Dr, Hillsborough, NC 27278  
 (919) 245-6125