

# Difference between gel and lithium batteries

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Victron Energy Lithium Battery Smart batteries are Lithium Iron Phosphate (LiFePO<sub>4</sub>) batteries and are available in 12.8 V or 25.6 V in various capacities. They can be connected in series, parallel and series/parallel so that a battery bank can be built for system voltages of 12 V, 24 V or 48 V. The maximum number of batteries in one system is 20, which results in a maximum energy storage of 84 kWh in a 12 V system and up to 102 kWh in a 24 V1) and 48 V1) system.

- o Does not need to be fully charged. Service life even slightly improves in case of partial charge instead of a full charge. This is a major advantage of LFP compared to lead-acid.

- o The charge process of lead-acid batteries becomes particularly inefficient when the 80 % state of charge has been reached, resulting in efficiencies of 50 % or even less in solar systems where several days of reserve energy is required (battery operating in 70 % to 100 % charged state).

- o LFP batteries are expensive when compared to lead-acid. But in demanding applications, the high initial cost will be more than compensated by longer service life, superior reliability and excellent efficiency.

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