



# Do power inverter charge the battery

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If an inverter fails to charge a battery the most likely reason is low voltage due to faulty wiring or a dead battery. If replacing the batteries and wires does not resolve the problem, the inverter internal circuits might be damaged.

Look up the circuit breaker to ensure it is properly set. If you are familiar with electrical components or installed the inverter yourself, you should have an idea if the set up is correct.

While you are inspecting the power supply from the inverter to the battery, you might as well go over the entire system. A lot of potential problems with inverter chargers can be avoided by a properly configured power supply.

If you want to have the battery fixed or replaced, look up its warranty. And if it is still under coverage you can get a free replacement or free repair. Do not tinker with the battery because it will void the warranty. The same rule is applicable to the inverter.

A typical inverter charger requires the voltage to be above 11.5V, assuming the inverter is 12V. If the voltage is lower than this, the system electronics will not be able to initiate a charge. The Ultrapower Battery Load Tester can check the status of your battery.

Whether you opt for a solar panel or another power source, the important thing is to supply the battery with power. Doing so will eliminate the low voltage issue. But if it does not, the problem is elsewhere, more likely the cables.

Inverters are built for use with specific battery voltages. If it is a 12V system, use 12V batteries. If it is a 24V system, go with 24V batteries and so on. Using an incompatible battery will damage the inverter and quite possibly any load that is connected to it.

Turn the system off and clean the batteries according to the manufacturer instructions. If the batteries are all right, inspect the cable wirings again. A bit of Johnsens 4606 Battery Terminal Cleaner should be enough.

This means you have to install the inverter as close to the battery bank as possible. Doing so will allow you to use a shorter wire and reduce the possibility of a failed battery charge.

Fuses can blow for a variety of reasons, the most common being a short circuit when running a power load. A fuse can also explode or even melt if the inverter is overloaded. An overloaded system generates heat and puts the various components under strain, including fuses.



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Inverters need different types of fuses, and you can find the relevant information on the operating manual. The required fuses are usually not included in the inverter package and must be purchased separately. Contact a professional if you are not sure what fuses to use.

These tips and workarounds presume that you are familiar with inverter installations and have experience handling electricity. If not, contact your inverter manufacturer for assistance.

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