# How are alkaline batteries recycled

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While this is good for technology, it"s a logistical challenge for battery recyclers like C.D. Dodd. With so many types, and even more sizes and shapes within those types, it"s hard to develop standardised recycling procedures.

This history and abundance means there are well-established lead-acid battery recycling processes. At our Perth battery recycling facility, we break down lead-acid batteries, separate the components, and recover materials for reuse.

Lithium-ion (Li-ion) batteries power consumer electronics (smartphones, laptops, tools and e-bikes), electric vehicles and smart home devices. As demand for these devices grows exponentially, so does the world"s battery disposal problem.

Already, this is leading to pioneering technologies being developed in Australia. For example, the CSIRO commissioned a dry-shredding plant, the first of its kind in the country, that uses new processes to recover valuable materials.

The absence of cadmium also simplifies the recycling process. NiMH batteries are collected and dismantled, then they undergo a chemical process to extract nickel, rare earth elements and other valuable materials.

The chances are high that you have at least a dozen alkaline batteries nearby. Marketed as AA, AAA and 9-volt batteries, alkaline batteries are widely used in household devices like remote controls, flashlights and toys.

While alkaline batteries offer good energy density and long shelf life, recycling is challenging due to the low value of recovered materials and high battery recycling costs. However, advancements in recycling technologies and increasing environmental awareness are driving improvements in alkaline battery recycling.

We"re also making it easier for Western Australians to access safe and sustainable battery disposal options. Our state-wide battery collection network and regular battery drives prevent dead batteries from ending up in landfills.

The recycling process for a button cell battery depends on its composition. Most will undergo mechanical separation (shredding) followed by a specialised chemical process to extract valuable materials.

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Web: https://sumthingtasty.co.za/contact-us/
Email: energystorage2000@gmail.com
WhatsApp: 8613816583346