
HOW TO SAFELY STORE AND MAINTAIN YOUR E-BIKE

Dangerous fires caused by the lithium-ion batteries in e-bikes, scooters, skateboards and other equipment are happening more often in NYC. We know that a lack of safe charging stations and the pressure on delivery workers to make faster deliveries — and, sometimes, the use of cheaper products and damaged batteries — all make the problem harder to solve.

THE CITY newsroom wants to help you stay safe as we continue to report on the issue. Here's how you can prevent battery fires, according to the FDNY and other experts:

EQUIPMENT & CHARGING

- Ideally, buy equipment certified by a third-party testing group. The most common one is Underwriters Laboratory, with the icon .
- Only use a charger manufactured for your equipment or device.
- Plug battery chargers directly into a wall outlet — **don't use extension cords** or power strips.
- Do not leave batteries unattended while charging, and **do not charge them overnight**. Do not charge batteries near heat sources or anything flammable. This electric charging station map at (buff.ly/3Wrbltu) from the state may help you find a safe place to charge your e-bike, scooter or moped.

MAINTENANCE, STORAGE & DISPOSAL

- If your battery is damaged in any way, get a new one from a reputable seller. **Altering or adapting batteries is very dangerous** and could increase the risk of fire.
- If you crash on your e-bike or scooter, replace a battery that has been knocked or hit. Like bike helmets, **batteries should be replaced after a crash even if they are not visibly damaged**.
- Store batteries at room temperature, away from heat sources and anything flammable.
- Keep your e-bike or scooter and batteries away from exits and windows so that a possible fire does not block escape.
- Never put a battery in the trash or recycling**. It is dangerous — and illegal. Always bring batteries to an official battery recycling center, which can be found at nyc.gov/batteries.

THE CITY created this flier in response to the rising number of e-bike fires.
Scan our QR code to read more.

