

# Tesla 12v lithium ion battery

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The battery consists of 7,920 lithium-ion 1865-type cylindrical cells, which are ...

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The refreshed Tesla Model S and Model X include a huge number of new technologies, features and solutions. One of them is the all-new lithium-ion 12V auxiliary battery, which replaces a conventional lead-acid battery.

DragTimes happens to be probably the first to point out this new 12V battery in a Model S during the Plaid delivery event yesterday (see video from 26:29).

This new version appears to be very small and much lighter than a standard 12V battery. We strongly believe it will also perform tremendously better than the standard lead-acid one, which in many cases (and many models) died far too frequently.

A 12V lithium battery has tons of advantages in EVs as it saves space, weight, has a higher cycle life and calendar life and suits the application better. Lead-acid batteries are good for starting an engine with high current, which is completely not needed in EVs.

We guess that it will withstand much longer without a charge from the main battery through the DC/DC converter.

According to the owner's manual, the battery is 6.9 Ah and 15.5 V nominal, which translates to 106.95 Wh. That's not a particularly high value (an example Liontron battery 12.8 V / 20 Ah nominal is about 256 Wh) so we will wait for confirmation, but maybe Tesla figured out that it's enough. The smaller its capacity, the less expensive and more efficient (weight) the car is.

The main traction battery (obviously lithium-ion) has a 450V nominal voltage and according to Tesla can operate at temperatures between -30°C up to 65°C, although not for a prolonged time.

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Among the many changes that Tesla implemented in the new Model S Plaid, a new, 12-volt lithium-ion battery is one of the most subtle yet significant improvements the company made to its flagship sedan. The new 12V li-ion battery replaces the conventional lead-acid battery that has been considered the "standard" in automobiles for a long time. However, Tesla aimed to improve the life cycle of this low-voltage cell to improve convenience and lifespan for owners.

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The new, smaller, more compact 12V battery actually holds several advantages over the previously used battery that Tesla used. While weight and size are obvious improvements, one of the biggest advantages is an increased lifespan. The previous lead-acid battery did not have a consistently long lifespan and was sometimes changed up to three times a year by some owners. This could be due to the overwhelming amount of strain that is put on battery cells when running an electric vehicle. In gas-powered and combustion engine vehicles, the lead-acid battery is a suitable choice because it is only used for starting the engine and minor electrical tasks like powering interior lights. In electric cars, the 12V battery could handle more tasks, thus decreasing the battery life.

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