



How Are Batteries Rated and What Do The Ratings Mean?

Amp-Hour = a unit of measurement for battery capacity, obtained by multiplying a current flow in amperes by the time in hours of discharge.

Cold Cranking Amps (CCA) = the maximum amperes that can be continuously removed from a battery for 30 Seconds at 0 degrees F before its voltage drops to unusable levels. A 550 CCA battery can supply 550 amperes for 30 seconds at 0 degrees F. This rating is only useful for engine starting batteries.

Reserve Capacity = the number of minutes a battery can maintain a useful voltage under a 25 ampere discharge. The higher the minute rating, the greater the battery's ability to run lights, electronics and so on for a longer period.

Cycle Life = one cycle of a battery is from full charge to full discharge and a return to full charge again. The total number of cycles a battery can perform before failure is called its Cycle Life.