

Battery Keeps Dying? Track the Pattern

Use this sheet to describe failures; do not guess at parts or disconnect circuits.

1 Identify the truck and the event

VIN / year / model / battery type

Mileage / battery age if known

Date / outdoor temperature

Hours parked / last drive duration

Accessories added or used

Last battery / electrical repair

2 What happened? Mark every observed symptom

☐ Slow crank / repeated clicks

☐ Strong crank but engine does not start

☐ Failed after parked overnight

☐ Failed after several short trips

☐ Battery warning while driving

☐ Low-battery message / electronics disabled

☐ Lights dim / electrical smell

☐ Jump-start worked, then failed again

3 Record simple observations - no live-circuit testing

Visible battery damage / leaks / swelling:

Loose / corroded terminals or obvious cable damage:

Interior, bed, glovebox or accessory light left on:

Dashcam, inverter, tracker or other added device:

Relevant warning message exactly as displayed:

STOP: damaged battery, smoke, burning smell or unresolved charging warning.

Request roadside assistance / professional diagnosis. Never jump or test a frozen, swollen or leaking battery. Use the exact vehicle jump-start instructions.

Workshop Test & Follow-Up

Ask for written test results instead of replacing components by trial and error.

4 Have the repair shop record confirmed tests

Battery charged before testing? / date:

Resting voltage (V), timing, temperature, battery type:

Battery conductance or load test: result / instrument:

Charging-system test: result and model-specific specification:

Connections / belts / grounds checked: defects found:

Key-off current after module sleep: value, process, spec:

Suspected circuit / accessory supported by evidence:

Written fault found and repair recommended:

Work performed / part number / warranty / cost:

5 Verify the repair and plan the next action

☐ Battery health documented

☐ Charging system documented

☐ Key-off loads checked if needed

☐ Vehicle-specific procedure followed

☐ Repeat start / rest check planned

☐ Written invoice and results retained

Follow-up date / conditions for retest

Still unresolved? Exact symptom to reproduce

A low voltage reading is not a diagnosis.

Do not infer a failed alternator or unsafe parasitic draw from a single generic limit.