

Circular economy, waste disposal and the environment

Many of our products are electronic products. Some of them also have a battery or rechargeable battery installed, which may or may not be removable depending on the design. As a dealer, we are obliged under various laws to provide information on a number of relevant points in connection with the sale of these batteries or rechargeable batteries as well as regarding the delivery of devices containing batteries or rechargeable batteries. We are also committed to promoting the circular economy and protecting the environment by providing appropriate information. By disposing and recycling responsibly, we all contribute to extending the life cycle of materials and protecting the environment. Together, we can shape the path to a sustainable circular economy and future.

Background

Electrical goods and batteries contain valuable raw materials such as metals, plastics and rare earths, which play an important role in the circular economy. Our packaging also contains recyclable materials that should be returned to the cycle, such as paper, cardboard and plastic.

In addition, all products may also contain substances that pollute the environment if they are not disposed of properly. It is therefore crucial to dispose of these products correctly. There are three main criteria here:

- **Conserve resources:** by recycling packaging, electrical appliances and batteries, materials can be reused instead of extracting new raw materials.
- **Environmental protection:** pollutants such as heavy metals or electrolyte liquids must not enter the soil or groundwater.
- **Climate protection:** recycling saves energy and reduces CO₂ emissions.

01 Electrical appliances

- Our electrical appliances are subject to the European Directive on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment in its currently applicable version.
 - WEEE Waste Electrical and
 - Electronic Equipment.
- Waste equipment does not belong in household waste.
- Waste equipment must be disposed of via an authorised waste disposal company or a municipal waste disposal facility.
- Retailers are often legally obliged to take back items free of charge.
- Observe all disposal laws and regulations applicable in your country.
- As a private customer, you can obtain information on environmentally friendly disposal options from the retailer where you purchased the product or the relevant regional authorities.
- Old appliances that contain harmful substances are labelled with the symbol of a crossed-out dustbin, similar to the symbol in this illustration:



- Current information on the collection rate can be found here: https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/waste-and-recycling/waste-electrical-and-electronic-equipment-weee_en

02 Disposable and rechargeable batteries

- Collect these separately and dispose of them in the special collection boxes in shops or at recycling centres.
- Batteries and rechargeable batteries must never be disposed of with household waste (crossed-out wheelie bin symbol).
- Batteries or rechargeable batteries that contain harmful substances are labelled with the symbol of a crossed-out dustbin and the harmful substance in question.
 - Pb = battery contains more than 0.004 per cent lead by mass
 - Cd = battery contains more than 0.002 per cent cadmium by mass
 - Hg = Battery contains more than 0.0005 per cent mercury by mass
- Under certain circumstances, batteries and accumulators are subject to the German Dangerous Goods Ordinance and may not be sent by normal post.
- Special rules for lithium: if your purchased product contains a battery or rechargeable battery that contains lithium, you must also observe the following:
 - Tape off the poles: cover the contacts with adhesive tape to prevent short circuits and fires during transport.
 - Defective or damaged rechargeable batteries: these are considered particularly hazardous and must be packed and transported in special, authorised containers (ADR special regulation SV 636).

03 Packaging

- Packaging can be fed into the reusable material cycle via the usual disposal methods.
- Please separate the packaging in accordance with the disposal laws and recycling regulations in your country.

04 Removal of batteries/rechargeable batteries and light bulbs

- If the products contain batteries and rechargeable batteries or light bulbs that can be removed from the old appliance without causing damage, these must be removed before disposal and disposed of separately as batteries or lamps.

05 Deletion of data

- Please ensure that your (personal) data on the waste electrical and electronic equipment to be disposed of has been completely deleted before handing in the old equipment.

06 Further information

- If you have any questions regarding the disposal of our products or their components or packaging, please do not hesitate to contact us during our business hours.