

Sixteen bike battery chargers to trickle your fancy, and keep your bike's battery fully charged



BikeTek Pro III, £33.99

Simple charger that will attempt to recover batteries showing 3V or more. It charges at 1 amp and drops charge when the battery is full, then monitors the battery and resumes charging if the voltage drops. If there's no light at all, it considers the battery to be dead.

Batteries charged: 12V Permanent battery cable? Yes Croc clips shrouded? No Wall mountable? No Desulphation mode? Yes
More info: www.bikeittrade.com



Gear Gremlin Intelligent, £49.99

The Gremlin displays when it's receiving power and once connected it shows a 'weak' light for dead batteries, a 'recovering' light for those it thinks can be saved, then 'charging' for those that need topping up. A green light shows a battery is charged. The sixth light is a warning that the croc clips are incorrectly connected.

Batteries charged: 12V Permanent battery cable? Yes Croc clips shrouded? Yes Wall mountable? Yes Desulphation mode? Yes
More info: www.thekeycollection.co.uk



Ring Dual Voltage Maintenance Smartcharge+, £34.99

A basic charger that puts in a normal 0.8A of charge then slows as the battery approaches full charge. It's not intuitive. We connected it to a dead battery and a charged one and it indicated each was fully charged. It also lacks a connection lead to screw to the terminals.

Batteries charged: 12V/6V Permanent battery cable? No Croc clips shrouded? No Wall mountable? Yes Desulphation mode? No
More info: www.ringautomotive.co.uk



Oxford Oximiser 601, £36.99

Without the LCD screen, Oxford's more basic charger is still intuitive and simple to use. It's got four lights that either show it considers a battery dead, being charged, charged enough to start a bike or charged fully and in maintenance mode. The instructions are clear. It won't charge batteries where power has dropped below 3V.

Batteries charged: 12V Permanent battery cable? Yes Croc clips shrouded? No Wall mountable? Yes Desulphation mode? No
More info: www.oxprod.com



SWTBC 12v 1.5 Amp Automatic Trickle, from £16.99

At £16.99 at Argos (also available elsewhere), this is the cheapest charger here. It's basic and has no desulphation mode, but tries to recover batteries with as little as 1V of charge. For trickle-charging with no bells and whistles, this is fine.

Batteries charged: 12V Permanent battery cable? No Croc clips shrouded? Yes Wall mountable? No Desulphation mode? No
More info: www.streetwiseaccessories.com



CTEK XS 0.8, £38.99

The simpler and cheaper CTEK charger has six stages, and the instructions make it clear what's happening in each phase. It will attempt to revive batteries that have dropped as low as 2V, and decide quickly if it is able to recover it. Once recovered it then charges at 0.8A until it is fully charged.

Batteries charged: 12V Permanent battery cable? Yes Croc clips shrouded? Yes Wall mountable? Yes Desulphation mode? Yes
More info: www.ctek.com



BC K900, £53.50

Similar to the cheaper Easy6 charger, but with the ability to charge 6V batteries, to recover batteries with as little as 1.5V of charge, and the option to charge batteries on bikes with CANbus wiring by plugging it into the bike's power socket outlet. It's very clear if it considers a battery to be too damaged to recover.

Batteries charged: 12V/6V Permanent battery cable? Yes Croc clips shrouded? Yes Wall mountable? Yes Desulphation mode? Yes
More info: www.wemoto.com



OptiMATE 4 Dual Program, £59.99

An array of lights gives precise info on the battery's state and what the charger is doing. When first connected it tests the battery and shows whether the battery is dead, damaged but recoverable, healthy but needing a charge or fully charged. It can also charge through a power outlet socket on bikes with CANbus.

Batteries charged: 12V Permanent battery cable? Yes Croc clips shrouded? No Wall mountable? Yes Desulphation mode? Yes
More info: www.tecmate-int.com