



Father's Day Power Tool Shopping

Make sure dear old dad is well-stocked with OEM batteries for safe, smooth projects

(June 7, 2022)—Shopping for a gift for Father's Day? Power tools are always the right size. Plus, dad is sure to enjoy using them more than a tie or some cologne. Luckily, dad's new cordless toy will probably come with a (rechargeable) battery included – but you still might want to pick up a spare to go along with the gift.

Why? With a new cordless power tool, you will eventually be in the market for primary, spare, or backup batteries to ensure future projects receive the power needed to get the job done! So, give dad a head start by including it with the gift.

You will have a lot of choices when buying backup or replacement batteries, and they are not all created equal. The [Power Tool Institute \(PTI\)](#) urges consumers to buy safe and smart replacement batteries – meaning those manufactured by their individual tool's original equipment manufacturer (OEM). When shopping for additional batteries for dad's new cordless power tool, keep a few things in mind to make sure he gets the most out of his gift.

Knock-off or counterfeit batteries are out there that might seem like a bargain at first glance. But look a little deeper, and you'll see their purchase comes with a lot more than you bargained for.

Only use a battery that has been recommended by the tool manufacturer. An OEM battery is seamlessly compatible with dad's new power tool and charger and has undergone rigorous testing to back it up. A knockoff or counterfeit battery's potential consequences include poor performance and shorter tool life or even overheating and complete failure. Even worse, the battery might burst, causing a fire or explosion resulting in personal injury and/or property damage.

What may look like a well-made counterfeit or knockoff seems reassuring, but what really matters is what's on the inside. Each OEM has its own proprietary control circuitry that is not available to third-party component suppliers. It is virtually impossible for any knock-off battery to match the OEM battery. What seems to work well out of the box may deliver dire consequences later.

Remember not to buy on price alone. Purchasing a battery online from an unknown seller can leave you with an unsatisfying – and potentially dangerous – experience. Pay close attention to the packaging, too, because makers of these knockoffs sometimes use colors and typefaces similar to those of the recognized brands specifically to confuse buyers. Purchase batteries from authorized dealers and be suspicious of any price that seems too good to be true. It probably is.

For more information and helpful power tool safety tips, visit <https://www.powertoolinstitute.com/>.

About PTI

With the vision to unify and educate others about power tools, since its founding in 1968, the Power Tool Institute (PTI) has established itself as the leading organization for building global understanding of power tools and for maintaining high standards of safety in the industry. Its members, a list of whom can be found [here](#), represent market-leading brands in the areas of portable and stationary power tools. PTI's

members are committed to improving the industry and to being the premier resource for power tool education. For more information, contact PTI 216-241-7333 or pti@powertoolinstitute.com. On the Web: www.PowerToolInstitute.com and www.TakeChargeOfYourBattery.com.

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