

**halfords**  
**ADVANCED**

Fully  
Automatic  
Battery  
Charger

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Instruction Manual

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Item code 329075  
RCB208 Auto

**Introduction**

Read and understand these instructions prior to using the charger and keep safe for future reference.

Halfords Ltd B98 0DE  
Technical Helpline 0113 2132000

## Safety Instructions

- Wear protective glasses and turn your face away when connecting or disconnecting the battery.
- Battery acid is corrosive. If battery acid comes into contact with skin or eyes rinse immediately with plenty of water and seek medical advice at once.
- The charger is designed to charge and maintain **12V lead-acid batteries only**. Do not use with any other type of battery.
- Only one battery can be charged at a time.
- Do not charge non-rechargeable batteries.
- Avoid sparks or other sources of ignition in the charging area – batteries can give off explosive gases. Do not smoke in the charging area.
- Always switch off and unplug the charger from the mains wall socket before disconnecting the battery clips.
- Do not stand the charger in the engine compartment or on/near combustible materials.
- Provide good ventilation when charging.
- The charger should never be covered when in use.
- The charger is designed for indoor use only – do not use outside or in damp or wet conditions. Keep the charger clean and dry and do not allow it to come into contact with acid or solvents likely to cause damage.
- Never charge a frozen battery.
- Children or the infirm should not use this charger and should be kept out of the charging area.
- If the battery becomes hot during charging turn off the charger immediately. The battery may be defective so should be professionally checked – your local Halfords store can test the battery. **Batteries that have not been used for some time may be internally defective** – even if they were performing correctly prior to the period of disuse. **Do not** use this charger on such batteries.
- The charger will become warm during charging but if the charger becomes hot – stop charging and have the battery tested – **for safety** regularly monitor the charging process.
- The charger should never be used as a substitute power supply.
- The charger contains no service replaceable parts – **do not** operate the charger if you suspect a fault. Do not dismantle the charger – consult a qualified electrician.
- Do not use the charger if the mains supply cord is **damaged**. The supply cord is not replaceable.

## Battery Types

The charger is suitable for charging and maintaining all types of 12V lead acid batteries and most gel types – always check and follow battery manufacturer's recommendations.

Not suitable for electric vehicles, golf carts or AGM batteries.

On standard batteries where electrolyte (battery acid) levels can be checked – follow the battery manufacturer's recommendations and ensure electrolyte levels are correct.

**Important** – if charging a marine (boat) battery this must be removed and recharged on shore – to charge in situ special equipment is required – check local regulations.

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## Charging

**Important note:** for safety there is no power at the battery clips until the charger is connected to the battery and then the mains supply. The charger needs to sense at least 6V in the battery for the charging cycle to start – batteries below this voltage will almost certainly be damaged and should not be charged. A fully discharged battery has a terminal voltage of 11.2V and below – ensure the battery has sufficient terminal voltage to start the charging process.

A useful accessory is a Digital Voltmeter – available separately from Halfords, which will indicate the battery terminal voltage before, during and after charging.

## Charger Switch Settings

Check whether your battery is standard or sealed:

**Standard batteries** – have removable caps allowing the battery acid levels to be checked – after following the battery manufacturer's instructions to ensure correct acid levels – set the battery charger switch to **Standard**.

**Sealed and Gel batteries** – have no removable plugs and therefore battery acid levels cannot be checked – set the battery charger switch to **Sealed**.

## Connecting the charger to a battery that is **not** fitted in the vehicle

For safety we **always** recommend that batteries are removed from the vehicle for re-charging.

Removing the battery from a vehicle may deprogramme vehicle settings – consult your vehicle handbook.

- Ensure that the charger **is not** connected to the mains supply.
- Connect the red battery clip to the +ve battery terminal and the black battery clip to the -ve battery terminal.

## Operation

- Once you have checked the correct battery connection you can start charging by connecting the charger to the mains supply (wall socket).
- The 'Charging' LED light should then glow yellow indicating that charging has commenced – if there is no light then it probably means that you have connected the battery clips incorrectly. If so the 'Polarity Check' LED will glow – remove the charger from the mains supply and reconnect the battery clips correctly.
- The yellow LED 'Charging' light will glow until the battery reaches full charge at which point the green 'Ready and Maintaining' LED light comes on indicating that the charger is in maintenance mode. The charger will monitor the state of charge of the battery and switch between charge and maintenance modes to protect the battery.
- The charger is designed to be left connected to the battery for extended periods – however the battery and charger must be **regularly monitored** and not left on charge whilst you are on holiday or away for long periods.
- Always switch off and unplug the charger at the mains wall socket before disconnecting the battery clips from the battery terminals.
- **Note** – Halfords chargers are set at charging rates that will not damage batteries. Batteries that have not been used for some time can be defective due to sulphation even if they were performing correctly prior to disuse. Additionally, batteries that have been charged on vehicles with defective charging systems will be damaged. Batteries can be professionally tested at most Halfords stores.

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## Environmental Advice

This charger should not be disposed of in household waste but returned to your local Authority Disposal Facility for recycling and environmental disposal.

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## Contact Us

Halfords Ltd,  
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