# Jump-Starting a Car Battery

This playbook provides a step-by-step guide on how to jump-start a dead car battery, ensuring that the procedure is conducted safely and effectively. It includes tips on proper cable connections and safety precautions.

### Step 1: Safety Check

Ensure that both cars are turned off, set the parking brakes, and open both hoods. Confirm that the jumper cables are in good condition without any exposed wires or corrosion.

### Step 2: Identify Terminals

Locate the positive (+) and negative (-) battery terminals on both the dead and the donor batteries. Positive is typically marked with red or a plus sign, while negative is black or has a minus sign.

### Step 3: Connect Positive

Attach one red clamp to the positive terminal of the dead battery and the other red clamp to the positive terminal of the donor battery. Ensure a solid connection free of corrosion.

### Step 4: Connect Negative

Clamp the black jumper cable to the negative terminal of the donor battery. Connect the other black clamp to an unpainted metal surface on the dead car's engine block away from the battery.

### Step 5: Start Donor Car

Start the engine of the donor car and let it idle for a few minutes to charge the dead battery. Monitor both batteries to ensure there's no overheating.

### Step 6: Start Dead Car

Attempt to start the car with the dead battery. If it starts, let it run idle for at least 15 minutes to recharge the battery before disconnecting the jumper cables.

### Step 7: Disconnect Cables

Disconnect the jumper cables in the reverse order that they were connected: first the black clamp from the engine block, next the black clamp from the donor battery, followed by the red clamps from both batteries.

### Step 8: Check Operation

After disconnecting, close the hoods of both cars and check that the jump-started car continues to operate normally. Monitor the battery performance to ensure no further issues.

## General Notes

### Precautions

Never connect the black jumper cable to the negative terminal of the dead battery as it can cause sparks and potentially a battery explosion. Always keep metal objects away from the battery to avoid a short circuit.

### Battery Type

Ensure both cars have the same voltage system (typically 12V) before jump-starting. Using a car with a higher voltage system can damage the electrical system of the car with the dead battery.

### Battery Inspection

Before attempting to jump-start, inspect the dead battery. If it shows signs of physical damage, leaking, or bloating, do not proceed, as it could be dangerous and needs professional evaluation.