

3. ALKALINE MANGANESE BATTERIES (Ever Ready Energizer Range)

The main hazard arises if the battery leaks or vents. The electrolyte is strongly alkaline 34-38% w/w potassium hydroxide which is highly corrosive. It will cause burns to skin externally (or internally). Potassium hydroxide is exceedingly harmful if allowed to enter the eyes. Anyone coming into contact with potassium hydroxide should wash with copious amounts of water. Tissue damage is not usually apparent until several hours after exposure. If the material enters the eyes emergency hospital treatment should be sought without delay.

Alkaline manganese cells contain amalgamated zinc powder (1.5% Hg) and manganese dioxide. Both these substances are toxic by ingestion.

4. BUTTON CELLS

Any type of button cell is hazardous if swallowed. If this arises immediate medical attention should be sought. Surgical removal of the battery may be necessary.

The chemical hazard depends on the system type. If button cells are ingested even the nickel plated case material will dissolve in the stomach acid giving rise to toxic nickel salts. Most button cells contain 34-40% potassium hydroxide solution which is highly corrosive but present in small volume.

Mercuric oxide-zinc button cells are the most hazardous if ingested because they contain approximately 30% by cell weight of highly toxic mercuric oxide powder in the cathode. Other button cells also contain amalgamated zinc powder which may be harmful if ingested.

5. NICKEL-CADMIUM BATTERIES

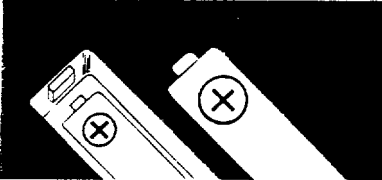
These batteries contain 30% potassium hydroxide solution which is highly corrosive. Normally this material would only be expelled under overcharge conditions. These batteries also contain cadmium, cadmium hydroxide and nickel hydroxide all of which are toxic. If the user comes into contact with potassium hydroxide then the affected area should be washed with a copious supply of water. Potassium hydroxide is harmful if it enters the eyes.

BATTERY SAFETY CODE

Used correctly, domestic batteries are a safe and dependable source of portable power. Problems can occur if they are misused or abused—resulting in leakage or, in extreme cases, fire or explosion.

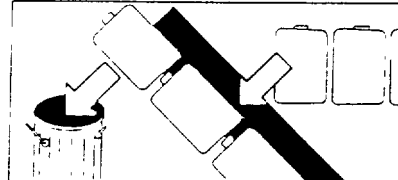
Here are some simple guidelines to safe battery use designed to eliminate any such problems.

ALWAYS



Take care to fit your batteries correctly, observing the *plus* and *minus* marks on the battery and appliance. Incorrect fitting can cause leakage or, in extreme cases, fire or even an explosion.

ALWAYS



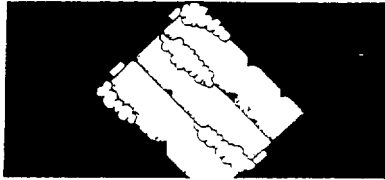
Replace the whole set of batteries at one time, taking care not to mix old and new batteries or batteries of different types, since this can result in leakage or, in extreme cases, fire or even an explosion.

ALWAYS



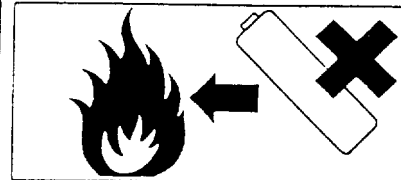
Store unused batteries in their packaging and away from metal objects which may cause a short-circuit resulting in leakage or, in extreme cases, fire or even an explosion.

ALWAYS




Remove dead batteries from equipment and all batteries from equipment you know you are not going to use for a long time. Otherwise the batteries may leak and cause damage.

NEVER



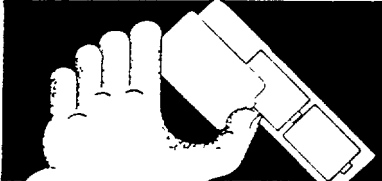
Never dispose of batteries in fire as this can cause them to explode. Please put dead batteries in with the normal household waste.

NEVER



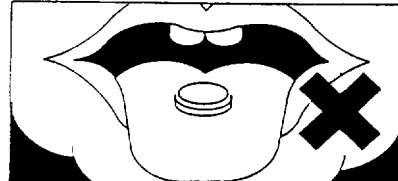
Never attempt to recharge ordinary batteries, either in a charger or by applying heat to them. They may leak, cause fire or even explode. There are special rechargeable batteries which are clearly marked as such.

ALWAYS



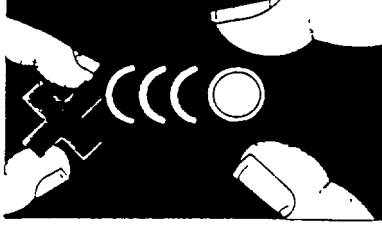
Supervise children if they are replacing batteries themselves in order to ensure these guidelines are followed.

ALWAYS



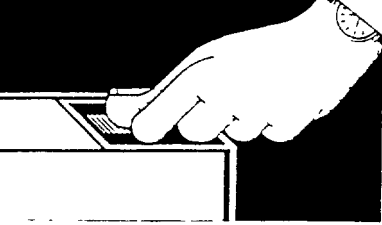
Remember that small button cell batteries such as used in some hearing aids, toys, games and other appliances, are easily swallowed by young children and this can be dangerous.

ALWAYS



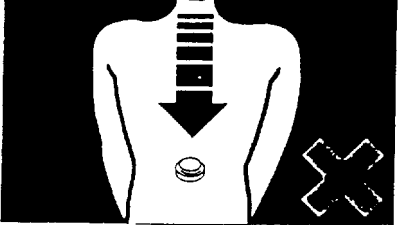
Keep loose button cells away from young children.

ALWAYS



Make sure battery compartments are secured.

ALWAYS



Seek medical advice if you believe a cell has been swallowed.

