

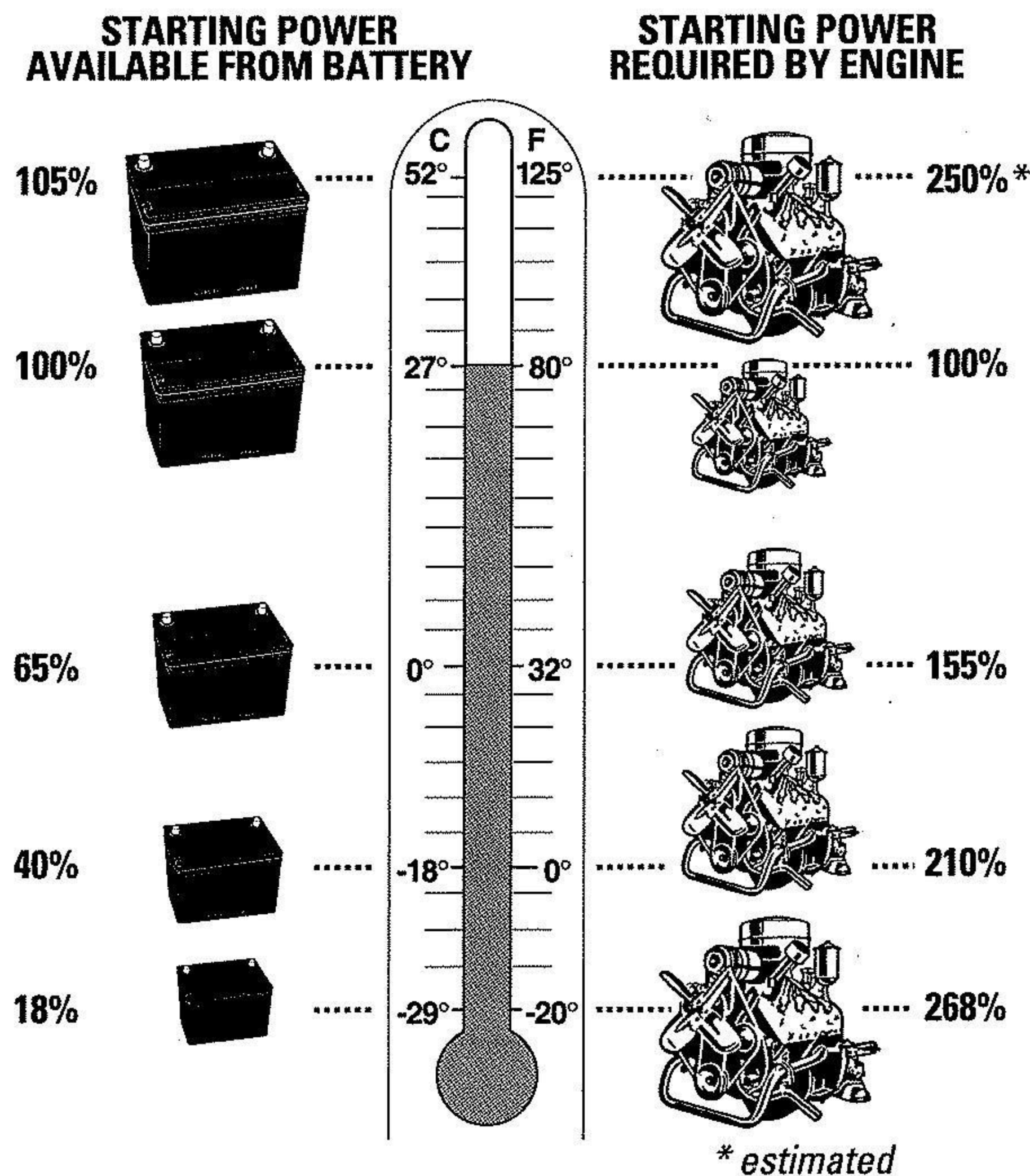
**ALWAYS WEAR EYE PROTECTION WHEN WORKING AROUND BATTERIES!**

# Basic Rules for Battery Care & Maintenance

## SELECT THE PROPER SIZE BATTERY

Always select a battery that has enough cranking power and reserve capacity to get the job done. Consider the vehicle manufacturer's recommended capacity to be a **minimum-capacity** guideline.

Along with electrical accessories, temperature also has a dramatic effect on battery performance. Vehicles that are operated in extremely cold climates will need a battery that's rated well above the minimum O.E. recommendation. *Remember, you can't select a battery with too much power!*



**Temperature has a dramatic effect on a battery's ability to crank an engine.** Not only does cold rob batteries of power, it also stiffens motor oil, making engines harder to start. **And heat can damage batteries** by causing internal components to wear out quickly while also making engines difficult to start. So do yourself a favor, select the higher capacity, more powerful batteries you'll need to tackle demanding climates.

## INSTALLATION TIPS

**Wear safety glasses. Special care must be taken when installing a battery to avoid a serious explosion or accident.**

If available, a computer memory saver should be used to save the vehicle's memory and avoid having to reprogram. Follow the manufacturer's directions carefully to avoid damage to the computer and/or electrical system.

1. Mark the positive (POS) cable. Turn off all electrical accessories. Disconnect hood and trunk bulb if opened to cut off all current.
2. Carefully remove old battery, **disconnecting the ground cable first**, to avoid any dangerous sparking around the battery.
3. Battery tray should be thoroughly cleaned and inspected for defects. Use a paste made from baking soda and water to neutralize any acid or corrosion. Repaint if necessary. It should be held fast to supporting members to prevent vibration and road shock. Replace tray if necessary.
4. The battery should rest level in the tray. Be sure terminals will clear hood, fender, etc.
5. The hold-down must be tightened until it is snug. Do not overtighten. Too much pressure on the battery case will cause damage to it internally and externally... causing an acid leak.
6. Cable terminals should be brushed until shiny and spread wide so that they will slip over the battery post without force. Do not hammer on them. Be sure marked POS cable is connected to POS (+) terminal. **Connect NEG (-) cable last to prevent dangerous sparks. DO NOT OVERTIGHTEN!** It's a good idea to install special corrosion retarding fiber washers around terminals to help extend battery life.
7. Side terminal batteries need special care. **Overtightening the terminal bolts will severely damage the battery and could cause a dangerous explosion.** Use a special side terminal torque tool to avoid this hazard.
8. Coat the terminals and exposed metal parts around the battery with a good quality protective spray.

## JUMP STARTING YOUR BATTERY SAFELY\*

**Shield eyes and face from batteries at all times!** Be sure vent caps are tight and level. Place damp cloth over vent caps on both batteries. Be sure vehicles or cable ends do not touch. Use a good quality booster cable set.

