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Panasonic BQ-321

Panasonic BQ-321 Rechargeable Battery and Charger Kit User Manual

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential instructions for the safe and efficient use of your Panasonic BQ-321 Rechargeable Battery and Charger Kit. Please read this manual thoroughly before using the product and retain it for future reference. This kit is designed to charge Panasonic Ni-MH AA rechargeable batteries.

SAFETY INFORMATION

Always observe the following safety precautions to prevent injury or damage to the product:

- **Use only with specified batteries:** This charger is designed exclusively for Panasonic Ni-MH AA rechargeable batteries. Attempting to charge other battery types, such as alkaline or carbon-zinc batteries, may cause them to leak, rupture, or explode, leading to personal injury or property damage.
- **Avoid short-circuiting:** Do not short-circuit the battery terminals.
- **Do not disassemble:** Do not attempt to disassemble, modify, or repair the charger or batteries. Refer all servicing to qualified personnel.
- **Keep away from water:** Do not expose the charger or batteries to water or moisture. Use in dry locations only.
- **Avoid extreme temperatures:** Do not use or store the charger or batteries in areas with extremely high or low temperatures, or in direct sunlight.
- **Proper ventilation:** Ensure adequate ventilation around the charger during use. Do not cover the charger with cloth or other materials.
- **Children and pets:** Keep the charger and batteries out of reach of children and pets.
- **Unplug when not in use:** Always unplug the charger from the power outlet when not in use or before cleaning.
- **Damaged components:** Do not use the charger if the casing, cord, or plug is damaged. Do not use damaged batteries.

PACKAGE CONTENTS

Verify that all items are present in your package:

- Panasonic BQ-321 Battery Charger Unit
- 4 x AA Ni-MH Rechargeable Batteries



An image showing the Panasonic BQ-321 charger unit alongside four AA Ni-MH rechargeable batteries.

SETUP

- Unpack:** Carefully remove all components from the packaging.
- Inspect:** Check the charger and batteries for any visible damage. Do not use if any damage is observed.
- Placement:** Place the charger on a flat, stable, and dry surface, away from direct sunlight and heat sources. Ensure there is adequate space for ventilation.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS: CHARGING BATTERIES

Follow these steps to charge your Panasonic Ni-MH AA batteries:

- Insert Batteries:** Open the battery compartment cover (if applicable) or carefully insert the AA Ni-MH batteries into the charging slots of the BQ-321 charger. Ensure that the positive (+) and negative (-) terminals of the batteries align correctly with the markings on the charger. Incorrect insertion can prevent charging or damage the batteries/charger.
- Connect to Power:** Plug the charger's power cord into a standard electrical outlet. The charger is designed to operate with an input voltage of 240 Volts.
- Charging Indication:** The charger typically features indicator lights (e.g., LEDs) for each charging slot. When batteries are correctly inserted and charging begins, the indicator light for that slot will illuminate (e.g., red). Once charging is complete, the light may change color (e.g., green) or turn off, depending on the charger model.
- Charging Time:** Charging times can vary based on the battery capacity and their current charge level. Refer to the battery's specifications for typical charging durations. Do not overcharge batteries beyond the recommended time.
- Remove Batteries:** Once charging is complete, unplug the charger from the power outlet. Carefully remove the charged batteries from the charger.

Note: The charger is specifically designed for Ni-MH batteries. Do not attempt to charge other battery types.

MAINTENANCE

- Cleaning:** Disconnect the charger from the power source before cleaning. Use a soft, dry cloth to wipe the exterior of the charger. Do not use liquid cleaners or solvents.
- Storage:** Store the charger and batteries in a cool, dry place, away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures. For long-term storage, it is recommended to store Ni-MH batteries with a partial charge.
- Battery Care:** Avoid fully discharging Ni-MH batteries frequently, as this can reduce their lifespan. Recharge them when they show signs of low power.
- Disposal:** Do not dispose of batteries in household waste. Follow local regulations for proper disposal of rechargeable batteries, which often involves recycling at designated collection points.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your Panasonic BQ-321 charger, refer to the following common problems and

solutions:

- **Batteries not charging / Indicator light not on:**

- Ensure the charger is securely plugged into a working power outlet.
- Verify that the batteries are inserted correctly, aligning the positive (+) and negative (-) terminals.
- Confirm that the batteries are Ni-MH type. The charger cannot charge other battery chemistries.
- Check if the batteries are severely over-discharged or faulty. Try charging a different set of known good Ni-MH batteries.

- **Charger or batteries feel hot during charging:**

- It is normal for batteries and the charger to become slightly warm during charging. However, if they become excessively hot, immediately unplug the charger and remove the batteries.
- Ensure the charger is in a well-ventilated area and not covered.
- If excessive heat persists, the batteries or charger may be faulty. Discontinue use and contact support.

- **Batteries do not hold a charge after charging:**

- Rechargeable batteries have a limited lifespan. If batteries no longer hold a charge, they may have reached the end of their service life and need to be replaced.
- Ensure the charger completed the charging cycle (indicator light changed/turned off).

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Model Number	BQ-321
Battery Type	Ni-MH AA (4 batteries included)
Input Voltage	240 Volts
Output Voltage	4.8 Volts
Compliance	UL, FCC
Manufacturer	Panasonic
Item Weight	2.4 ounces
Package Dimensions	9.75 x 4.7 x 1.2 inches
Date First Available	May 19, 2009

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information, please refer to the documentation included with your product at the time of purchase or visit the official Panasonic website. Warranty terms and conditions may vary by region and product.

If you require technical assistance or have questions not covered in this manual, please contact Panasonic customer support through their official website or the contact information provided in your product packaging.

