

AGM vs Carbon - Which battery wins?



It's a question many of you have asked us over the past few weeks and months.

Giant Power offers two distinct system options, identical in every way except for the battery type. To clarify the differences between the batteries, we have created this brief overview highlighting the main points.

There is clearly some buzz in the market regarding Lithium type batteries, and although there are many different versions, we have included a general Lithium option in this overview:

		Carbon	AGM	Lithium
Design life	✓	20 years	12 years	10-15 years
Cycle life	✓	7000	1600-2200	4000-6000
Expected lifespan at 30% DoD	✓	18-20 years	6-8 years	10-15 years
DoD	✓	Up to 100% max	30% on a daily basis max	80% - 90% max
Partial state of charge	✓	Hardly affected	Minor longterm impact	✓ Hardly affected
Maintenance		Maintenance free	Maintenance free	Maintenance free
Warranty	✓	7 yr pro rata	5 yr pro rata	Varies
Years in market		4+	✓ 30+	<4
Current upfront price		\$\$\$\$	✓ \$\$	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

To summarise, you can see that the Carbon option provides significant advantages over AGM, for only a small price increase. For price sensitive customers the AGM batteries do still offer a very attractive upfront price with the ability to upgrade the system to better batteries at a later stage.

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