 | 17. Oktober 2003 |

Mercedes-Benz
All types with 12 V systems

Information about the battery

In the case of batteries that are almost discharged, providing jump starts or incorrect charging can lead to follow-on damage to control units and electrical components.

Possible causes are:

- Inverse polarity
- Excess voltage e.g. 24 V jump starts with 12 V systems
- Charging of the battery with the vehicle wiring system still connected up. (Only with chargers with insufficient interference resistance)

For this reason it's important to remember when charging batteries:

- If the battery is to remain connected to the vehicle wiring system during charging, only battery chargers that have a high interference resistance in comparison to the vehicle wiring system should be used.
- The charge current should be max. 10% of the battery capacity, e.g. for a 62 Ah battery, max. 6.2 A charge current.
- During rapid charging, the max. charge current should be equivalent to 50% of the battery capacity for 30 minutes, e.g. for a 62 Ah battery, max. 31 A charge current for 30 minutes, and then reduced to the normal charge procedure.

Sometimes boost start chargers can be the cause of defective components. In the case of jump starts with boost start chargers on vehicles with batteries that are almost discharged, critical voltages can be produced that could cause such defects in the vehicle electrics. For this reason, when carrying out jump starts always use a second battery.