



FACT SHEET

Understanding and Managing Lithium-Ion Battery Risks



Lithium-ion batteries are increasingly common in our homes, powering everything from phones and laptops to e-scooters and power tools. While convenient, they also pose potential fire risks.

Understanding the Risks:

Lithium-ion batteries store significant energy in a compact space. If they malfunction, they can release harmful fumes, explode, or ignite. Strata Community Insurance highlights the importance of managing these risks, especially in densely populated areas like strata communities.

It's important for everyone living in a strata community to understand the hazards and be aware of the risks. You can help by ensuring that charging is done safely and your equipment is in good condition and being used as designed.

Here's how to stay safe:

Purchasing and Using Devices:

- Buy from reputable suppliers and check second-hand items thoroughly.
- Only use approved chargers and cords supplied with your device.
- Never modify batteries or devices.

Safe Charging:

- Charge devices on hard surfaces, not on beds, blankets or carpets.
- Never leave devices charging unattended or overnight.
- Do not charge damaged or hot batteries.
- Keep batteries and devices cool and dry, out of the direct sun and away from heat sources.
- Don't charge in potential escape routes like a hallway or doorway, which could trap you and others in a fire.

Warning Signs and Disposal:

- Stop using any product that shows signs of overheating, bulging, leaking, or strange noises.
- In case of smoke, flames, or fumes, evacuate immediately and call 000.
- Never dispose of lithium-ion batteries in regular bins or recycling. Many fires originate from household waste disposal.

By following these tips, we can all contribute to safer use and disposal of lithium-ion batteries.

For more information on strata insurance, property maintenance, and other resources, visit the [Strata Toolkit](#) by [Strata Community Insurance](#).

Strata Community Insurance is a major player in the strata insurance market and are recognised as a trusted partner, a knowledgeable confidant, and the go-to risk and insurance expert for all things strata.

Strata Community Australia (Qld) Limited (SCA Qld) is the peak industry body for Body Corporate and Community Title Management in Queensland. Membership includes body corporate managers, support staff, committee members and products and services providers to the sector.

SCA (Qld) thank Strata Community Insurance for providing the information in this fact sheet, noting it provides general information only and does not substitute legal advice.