1985-1994 Chevrolet Astro - 12V Battery Replacement

1985-1994 Chevrolet Astro | Easy | 30-90 minutes | $180 DIY

TOOLS

8mm wrench or socket, ratchet, and short extension Battery terminal brush and electrical-safe cleaner Memory saver only if the vehicle procedure permits it Gloves, eye protection, and a small flashlight

PARTS

Replacement 12-volt battery for 1985-1994 Chevrolet Astro; verify group size, CCA, terminal layout, and VIN fitment $180.00 Anti-corrosion terminal protectant or felt washers (optional) $8.00

STEPS

1. **Verify battery fitment - The 1985-1994 Astro uses GM side-terminal batteries: catalogs** list Group 75 or Group 78 side-post units (roughly 650-800 CCA) - the 78 is the longer case, so match your old battery's label exactly. Don't buy a top-post battery.
2. **Make the vehicle safe - Park on level ground, ignition fully off, parking brake set. The** battery sits in the engine bay on the driver's side, side terminals facing the fender. You'll need an 8mm (5/16-inch) wrench for the side-terminal bolts. Wear gloves and eye...
3. **Disconnect the old battery - Remove the hold-down bracket at the battery's base. Loosen** the negative side-terminal bolt first, then the positive, pulling the cable ends straight out - never pry. Go easy: side-terminal bolts strip and snap if forced, and the cables h...
4. **Compare and install the replacement - Same group (75 or 78), same side-post layout.** Wire-brush the cable ends until the contact faces shine. Thread the side bolts in by hand first to avoid cross-threading, then snug firmly - not gorilla-tight, or you'll crack the case.
5. **Reset and verify operation - Start the Astro and confirm the charging light goes out and** cranking is brisk. Let it idle a few minutes so the ECM re-learns. If the battery light stays on, a terminal feels hot, or you smell sulfur, have the alternator tested.

TORQUE

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