1999-2006 GMC Sierra 1500 - Battery Replacement

1999-2006 GMC Sierra 1500 | Easy | 30-45 minutes | $140 DIY

TOOLS

8mm wrench or socket (side-terminal bolts) 10mm socket (brace bolts) 13mm socket with 6-inch extension (hold-down bolt) ratchet wire brush or battery terminal cleaning tool safety glasses work gloves dielectric grease or petroleum jelly (optional corrosion protection)

PARTS

Correct group-size battery $140.00
Terminal cleaner $8.00
Terminal protectant $7.00

STEPS

1. **Park safely - Put on safety glasses and gloves before touching anything. Park on level** ground, shift to Park, set the parking brake, and switch the ignition off.
2. **Remove the diagonal brace over the battery - A diagonal metal brace crosses over the** battery area on these trucks. Remove its two bolts with a 10mm socket and ratchet, then lift the brace out and set it aside. This is not optional access work - the brace blocks the battery from lif...
3. **Disconnect the negative side-terminal cable first - Loosen its side-terminal bolt with an** 8mm wrench or socket and unthread it from the battery's side terminal. Because these are side posts, the cable end lifts straight away once the bolt is out - do not twist or lever it.
4. **Disconnect the positive side-terminal cable - Loosen the positive cable's side-terminal** bolt with the 8mm wrench and unthread it from the battery. The positive cable on these trucks has a red protective boot - slide it back before loosening and replace it afterward.
5. **Remove the hold-down retainer and lift the battery out - Unthread the bolt, lift out the** retainer, and set both aside. Grip the battery with both hands and lift straight up out of the tray, keeping it level.
6. **Clean the tray and install the new battery - Brush corrosion and debris out of the** battery tray, and clean both cable ends with a wire brush or terminal tool until the contact surfaces shine. Lower the new battery into the tray with its side terminals facing the rear of the truck, ex...
7. **Reconnect cables, refit the brace, and test - Reconnect the positive cable first: thread** its bolt into the side terminal by hand to avoid cross-threading, then snug it with the 8mm wrench - firm, not gorilla-tight, since side terminals strip easily. Then connect the negative cable t...

TORQUE

Battery hold-down 11 Nm 8 ft-lbs

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