2003-2008 Toyota Matrix - Battery Replacement

2003-2008 Toyota Matrix | Easy | 30-90 minutes | $180 DIY

TOOLS

10 mm 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 2003-2008 Toyota Matrix; verify group size, CCA, terminal layout, and VIN fitment $180.00 Anti-corrosion terminal protectant or felt washers (optional) $8.00

STEPS

1. **Confirm the Matrix battery specs and symptoms - Matrix takes a BCI Group 35 (OE rating** about 550 CCA), driver side of the bay under a hold-down bracket. Some have a cover - unclip it to see the terminals. Buy a Group 35 with positive top right.
2. **Park, make it safe, and preserve your settings - Park on level ground, ignition off. Wear** safety glasses and gloves. A memory saver preserves presets; without one, reset the clock and stations, and have the radio code handy. Tools: 10 mm wrench or socket, wire brush, terminal protector s...
3. **Disconnect the old battery, negative first - Unclip the cover. Loosen the negative** terminal with the 10 mm wrench and twist it off, tucking it aside. Loosen the positive. Toyota clamps seize with corrosion - twist, don’t pry; prying cracks posts. Keep the wrench off both posts.
4. **Unbolt the hold-down and install the new battery - Remove the hold-down bolt and lift the** Group 35 out - 37 lbs. Scrub the tray and clamps with baking-soda solution. Set the new Group 35 in, positive toward the red cable, reinstall the hold-down, and confirm the cables reach.
5. **Reconnect, relearn, and verify the charging system - Reconnect positive first, then** negative, snugging each so it can’t twist. Reinstall the cover. Start the engine: brisk crank, no battery light. Reset the clock, idle 10 minutes, then drive normally while the transmission relearns. Check vo...

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