

Battery Hookup - <https://batteryhookup.com/>
Bensalem, PA

At the meeting last night I showed a 32Ah 12.8V LiFePO4 battery that I had found at Battery Hookup, a company that specializes in selling overstock new, used or salvage lithium batteries either as whole battery packs or individual cells. Their customers are mostly people who are building their own home power walls, battery banks for electric trolling motors, batters for e-vehicles (golf carts, e-bikes, etc.). They sell all different kinds of lithium chemistry. They assume their customers know what they are doing and speak battery lingo. The LiFePO4 chemistry is good for hams because four cells in series gives 12.8V. Other lithium chemistries don't land so nicely where our radios like to operate, but can work. If you're new to lithium, do some study before you jump in.

They buy "lots" of surplus batteries, some are resold as-is and some are cleaned up, tested and resold. When a lot is sold, they're gone. Think overstock.com for batteries.

Intact, "ready-to-wear" batteries like I showed appear from time to time and tend to sell quickly. They are NOT generally in stock. So you have to watch the site. Or follow their Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1907193232909164>) The Facebook group is where to get tech support and advice and help. Battery Hookup offers only what you see in each listing - no tech manuals, nothing. You get batteries dirt cheap. My experience is they are honest and straightforward to deal with, though I need to talk to them about their tax calculator - their check-out app insists on charging me a city sales tax ...

In this moment (could be gone by the time you read this), they do have USED (cleaned up, tested) batteries in the 32Ah size: <https://batteryhookup.com/products/lithiumpower-12-8v-32ah-410wh-lifepo4-module-w-bms>. The better ones test at 80-90% capacity and are priced accordingly. They will ship the battery with the charge/discharge test done on that battery. Given that a new battery should have 2500-3000 cycles if treated reasonably well, you're looking at $2000 \times 80\% = 1600$ full cycles. If you do a full discharge once per month that's $1600/12 = 133$ years. The biggest downside to LiFePO4 is that they do not discharge below -10C (14F) and do not charge below 0C (32F) so you need to keep it in your sleeping bag with you or within range of the camp stove on Winter Field Day :) :) They are U1 size so they fit the U1 battery case you can get at places like WalMart.

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Greg
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