

# Top Ten Common Problems: Push Starting When You Have a Dead Battery



It's a common sight to see people pushing a vehicle to get its dead battery started. Although it's pretty common, it doesn't mean it's very safe or effective, for that matter. I suggest that you save push starting your vehicle as your last resort when it comes to starting your vehicle with a dead battery.

The previous posts on this blog will show you more effective and safer ways by which you can jump-start a problem battery. That being said, a few words of warning regarding this method:

**Pushing a 2000-lb. vehicle is neither safe nor easy.** As much as possible, try this method only when you've exhausted all your other options—including jump-starting your vehicle with a portable device or jump-starting it with jumper cables and another fully-functional vehicle present.

**Remember that safety comes first.** It's a really mean feat to be able to push your vehicle by yourself, while controlling the clutch pedal and the accelerator. **Make sure you have at least another adult pushing the car** while you attempt to get the car moving.

**If it's absolutely necessary that you aid in pushing the car, make sure you can jump in the car soon enough to control it,** otherwise you run the risk of losing complete control of the vehicle or worse, seriously injuring yourself in the process.

**Try this method only if you have a manual transmission vehicle.**

**Lastly, the older your battery, the sooner you have to replace it.** If your battery has a long history of jump-starting and push-starting, then it's highly recommended that you replace your old battery immediately. Try to find great **car parts**, or if you're driving a truck, **truck accessories** online for excellent bargains.



Now that you've been properly warned, we can discuss how push-starting a vehicle with a dead battery works. When you have a manual transmission vehicle, it's possible that you can get the battery to turn over simply by rolling or pushing the vehicle forward. If you own a van or a large pickup, you will definitely need a group of adults to help you push your vehicle. Your job will be a lot easier if your vehicle happens to be positioned on a small incline.

Before you begin pushing, keep in mind that your safety and the safety of everyone involved comes before your vehicle's welfare. Before you try anything, make sure that everyone understands how push starting works and takes extra precaution in making sure that their hands, feet or any body part is away from the wheels or any part of the vehicle that may cause harm to their well-being.

With that said, here are a set of simple instructions on how you can push start a car with a dead battery.

1. Make sure that all the accessories in your car that requires the battery is turned off. This includes your car lights, the heater, air conditioner and the radio.
2. Instead of starting the vehicle, simply turn the key in the ignition and make sure that it is at the “on” position.
3. Push down on the clutch pedal, and shift into the first gear.
4. Release the hand brake, but keep your foot on the brake pedal.
5. Signal to the group behind you to start pushing, and then slowly lift your foot off of the brake pedal to get the vehicle moving.
6. When the vehicle starts moving, slowly release the clutch pedal and step on the accelerator pedal.
7. Try to start the vehicle.
8. When the vehicle starts, let it run for about half an hour.

Remember that this is just a temporary solution to your battery problem. You’re going to have to replace your busted battery sooner or later—and trust me when I tell you that the sooner you do the better. If you’re worried about the expenses that come with battery replacement, I suggest you check out this website on discount auto parts.

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