

Reducing 2-cell A123 battery voltage equivalent to 4-cell NiCD or NiMH voltage

Some receivers and servos don't like the slightly higher voltage of a 2 cell A123 pack (nominal 6.6 V), compared to a 4 cell NiCD or NiMH pack (nominal 4.8 V). Insert two diodes in series between the switch and the receiver. Each diode drops the voltage by 0.7 Volts. So two diodes drop voltage by 1.4 Volts. Use 2 to 5 Amp (or higher) diodes to avoid overloading them.

Diodes are directional, so the band on the diodes must be as shown (to the receiver). DO NOT insert the diodes between the battery and the charge lead. Your A123-compatible charger MUST see the unaltered voltage of the battery. Diodes are inexpensive and available from Radio Shack.

By Willie McMath

