

AutoShack Weekly Tip



- How do you tell if your starting problems are due to your battery or alternator?
- In today's tip we discuss how to tell if your starting problems are battery-related or alternator-related.

Before you start, Check your user manual and follow all safety procedures.

- Start the car. If it won't start, jump it.
- Let it run for 5 minutes.
- Disconnect the negative battery cable.
- If engine keeps running, the alternator is good.
- If engine goes off, then either your alternator is bad or you have bad alternator wire connections.
- **Explanation:** Once the car is started, it runs off the alternator not the battery. So if the engine dies after disconnecting the battery, then the alternator is bad.

- Click the links below to visit/contact us to learn more about us and how we might be able to assist you.
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- A majority of the tip topics are suggested by others based on their experiences.
- Consider helping others to benefit from your experiences by suggesting a topic for our tip bank based on your car troubles, experiences or observations.