

Lenovo ThinkPad Model Notebook Computer Battery Recall

Lenovo, in cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, is recalling approximately 208,000 9-cell lithium-ion batteries. In the interests of public safety, Lenovo will offer customers free-of-charge replacement batteries for all recalled batteries.

Lenovo sold the batteries with new notebook computers or as optional or replacement batteries on the models listed below between November 2005 and February 2007. If a recalled ThinkPad battery pack receives a strong external impact, the battery pack may overheat, posing a potential safety hazard to users.

- R60 & R60e Series
- T60 & T60p Series
- Z60m, Z61e, Z61m, & Z61p Series

These models may have shipped with either 6-cell or 9-cell batteries; only the 9-cell batteries with the part number **FRU P/N 92P1131** are being recalled.

Until a replacement battery arrives, consumers who intend to transport their ThinkPad or use it in a manner that may subject it to a strong external impact should turn off the system, remove the battery, and only power the ThinkPad by plugging in the AC adapter and power cord.

Q. Which ThinkPad notebook PC models are affected by the recall?

A. The recall affects the following models and part number. Customers who bought these systems or an optional or replacement battery for these systems may have a battery subject to this recall.

- R60 and R60e Series
- T60 and T60p Series
- Z60m, Z61e, Z61m, and Z61p Series

These models may have shipped with either 6-cell or 9-cell batteries; only the 9-cell batteries with the part number **FRU P/N 92P1131** are being recalled (see photo).



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Q. Who was the manufacturer of the recalled batteries?

A. Sanyo.

Q. Is this recall related to the Sony battery recall?

A. No. The two recalls are unrelated.

Q. What led you to do a recall?

A. There have been four incidents that came to our attention. Our number one priority is public safety and we concluded that a recall was appropriate in this case.

Q. How can I find out if my battery is being recalled?

A. Customers who bought a ThinkPad or an optional or replacement battery between November 2005 and February 2007 may have a battery affected by the recall. These customers should go to www.lenovo.com/batteryprogram to determine if their battery is affected by the recall. Students can bring their ThinkPad to the ResNet office and faculty/staff/administration can call the Help Desk (x4357) for assistance.

Q. Is it safe to continue using a system with a recalled battery until the replacement battery arrives?

A. If your battery has been recalled and you intend to transport your ThinkPad or use it in a manner that may subject it to external impact, you should turn off the PC, remove the battery, and only power your ThinkPad via an AC adapter.

Q. Will a battery be replaced at no charge even if the machine is out of warranty? How about if the battery was purchased as an accessory?

A. Lenovo is replacing the recalled batteries free of charge. The replacement battery will come with a one-year limited warranty from Lenovo.

Q. My battery is not being recalled, but may I obtain a replacement battery anyway?

A. We're sorry, but unless your battery is being recalled, we cannot accommodate your request.

Q. Is it safe to use an after-market battery in a ThinkPad notebook?

A. The safety of so-called "gray market" batteries is unknown, and we've had incidents involving these types of batteries. We encourage customers to use only batteries from either Lenovo, or authorized resellers, in our products.

Q. How might my battery fail and what will be the result?

A. The recalled batteries may be subject to failure if subjected to a strong external impact. This battery failure can result in overheating, smoking, sparking, and venting.

Q. What is the root cause of this battery's failure?

A. The recalled batteries may be subject to failure if subjected to high levels of physical impact. A strong external impact at an angle may cause the outer casing to crack and dent the battery cell. The dent may cause an electrical short in the cell, and in rare cases, may lead to the cell overheating and venting.

Q. How will Lenovo prevent the same failure from occurring in the replacement battery?

A. The battery pack design has been changed in several ways to better protect the cells from external impact.