



Oneida Telephone Exchange

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Fiber Optic Battery Backup

Backup Power for Fiber Optic Voice Telephone Services During Power Outages:

For many years, your landline telephone would allow you to stay connected to emergency voice services during a power outage. However, if your residential voice telephone service is provided using fiber optics, rather than the traditional twisted pair copper-based line, the residential voice telephone service requires backup battery power to continue functioning during a power outage. To avoid a disruption of home voice service during a power outage - and to maintain the ability to connect to 911 emergency services - Oneida provides you with a battery for backup power for your fiber optic voice telephone service at the time of the initial installation at no additional cost.

What Your Battery Can - and Can't - Do for You:

The backup battery for fiber optic voice service allows you to continue to use your voice services during a power outage. Without a backup battery or alternate backup power source such as a generator, customers with fiber optic delivered services will not be able to make calls, including emergency calls to 911. The only way to maintain the ability to use your voice service is by using some form of backup power.

Inability to Use Cordless Phones and Other Devices During A Power Outage:

If you have a cordless phone, it will not work during a power outage as your cordless phone requires power from an external power source like an electric outlet in your home. To use your cordless phone, you would need to power the cordless phone with a backup generator or UPS (Uninterruptible Power Supply). In order to use your Oneida voice service during power outages, we suggest that you keep a corded phone on hand. Corded phones, unlike cordless phones, do not need a separate power source to operate.

Oneida's backup battery only provides backup power to Oneida's fiber optic voice services. Devices that rely on voice service, such as home security systems, medical monitoring devices, TTY devices, and other equipment may be disrupted if there is an electrical power outage unless those devices are powered by an alternate power source such as a generator or UPS (Uninterruptible Power Supply). These type of alternate power sources are available from third party retail vendors.

Expected Backup Battery Power Duration:

The backup battery included with your Oneida's fiber optic voice service is expected to last up to 8 hours on standby power. The backup battery should give you approximately 4 to 6 hours of talk time. 24-hour standby batteries are available for purchase. Please contact our office (309)-483-3111 for more details.