SOFTWARE & TECH

Nixon Lodown Watch Battery

PUBLISHED
November 25, 2026

REFERENCE
#1795581086486910

Mastering the Nixon Lodown Watch Battery: A Complete Guide to Replacement and Care

For devotees of action sports and bold street style, the Nixon Lodown watch holds a special place. It is not just a timepiece; it is a rugged companion built to withstand the demands of surfing, skating, and everyday life. However, like all quartz watches, its heart is a battery, and eventually, that battery will run flat. Understanding the intricacies of the **Nixon Lodown watch battery**is essential for keeping your watch ticking reliably. This guide will walk you through everything you need to know, from identifying the correct battery to replacing it yourself and extending the life of your timepiece.

Understanding the Nixon Lodown: A Watch Built for the Elements

Before diving into battery specifics, it is helpful to appreciate what makes the Lodown unique. Known for its oversized case, bold colorways, and robust construction, the Lodown is designed to be a statement piece that can handle abuse. Its large face makes it highly readable, and its water resistance is a key feature for water sports enthusiasts. This rugged design, however, means that accessing the battery compartment is not always as straightforward as on a standard dress watch. The case construction and gasket seals that protect the movement from water intrusion require careful handling during any battery service.

Knowing the exact model of your Lodown is the first critical step. Nixon has produced multiple variations of this watch over the years, including the classic Lodown, the Lodown Tide, and special editions like the Lodown SS (Stainless Steel) or the Lodown Premium. While the movement inside is often a standard Japanese quartz caliber, the specific **Nixon Lodown watch battery**type can vary depending on the year of manufacture and the specific sub-model you own.

Identifying the Correct Nixon Lodown Watch Battery

One of the most common mistakes owners make is purchasing the wrong battery. Installing an incorrect battery can lead to poor performance, leakage, or even damage to the movement. To avoid this, you need to look at the existing battery or consult the watch's specifications. Most Nixon Lodown watches utilize a common button cell battery, but the exact number is crucial.

Based on the most popular Lodown models, here are the batteries you are most likely to encounter:

- SR626SW (or 377/376): This is a very common silver oxide battery used in many quartz watches. If your Lodown has a standard three-hand movement (hour, minute, second), this is a strong candidate.
- CR2016: Often used in watches with larger movements or additional features like a tide function. It is a lithium battery with a higher voltage than the SR626SW.
- SR621SW (or 364/363): Another common silver oxide cell that may be found in thinner Lodown variations.
- CR2025: Slightly thicker than the CR2016, this battery might be found in older or special-edition Lodown models with a heavier power draw.

Pro Tip: The best way to know exactly which **Nixon Lodown watch battery** you need is to open the case back yourself (or have a jeweler do it) and read the number printed directly on the old battery. Do not rely solely on model names found online, as production changes have occurred over the years. Also, note that using silver oxide batteries is generally preferred over alkaline equivalents in watches because silver oxide provides a steadier voltage discharge, which keeps your watch running accurately until the battery is nearly dead.

Step-by-Step Guide to Replacing Your Nixon Lodown Watch Battery

If you are handy and have the right tools, replacing the battery in your Lodown is a rewarding DIY task. However, because of the watch's water resistance and robust construction, caution is paramount. A slip of the tool can scratch the case or damage the gasket, compromising the watch's ability to withstand water.

- A case back opening tool. For Lodown watches, a case wrench or a case knife is typically required. Many Lodown models have a screw-down case back with small notches.
- A small Phillips head screwdriver (if the movement is held in place by a screw).
- A pair of non-magnetic tweezers. Using magnetic tweezers can magnetize the movement, causing the watch to run erratically.
- A new, fresh Nixon Lodown watch battery of the correct type.
- A soft cloth or watch cushion to protect the crystal.
- Silicone grease and a case back press (for reassembly and maintaining water resistance).

1. Prepare your workspace: Work on a clean, flat surface. Lay out your tools and the new battery. Ensure your hands are clean and dry.
2. Open the case back: Most Nixon Lodown watches have a screw-down case back. Place the watch face down on the soft cloth. Align the prongs of the case wrench with the notches on the case back. Gently turn counterclockwise. If it is tight, apply steady pressure. Do not use excessive force, as this can strip the notches. If the case back is a press-fit, use the case knife carefully between the case and the case back.
3. Remove the old battery: Once the case back is removed, you will see the movement. Take note of how the battery is positioned. Use the non-magnetic tweezers to gently lift the old battery out. Avoid touching the movement's delicate parts. Dispose of the old battery properly.
4. Inspect the old battery and gasket: Check the old battery for any signs of leakage. If there is any white or green residue, the movement may be damaged. Also, inspect the rubber o-ring (gasket) on the case back. If it is dry, cracked, or flattened, it should be replaced. A damaged gasket is the most common reason for water damage after a battery change.
5. Install the new battery: Using the tweezers, pick up the new Nixon Lodown watch battery by its edges. Place it into the battery slot with the correct polarity (usually the positive (+) side facing up, but this can vary). Gently press it down until it clicks into place under the battery hold-down spring.
6. Reassemble the watch: Before closing the case back, ensure the watch is running. Check the second hand to ensure it is ticking. Next, apply a tiny amount of silicone grease to the gasket. This helps it seal properly and prevents it from drying out. Carefully place the case back onto the watch, aligning the notches. Use the case wrench to turn it clockwise until it is snug. Do not overtighten. If you have a press-fit case back, use the case back press to gently snap it back into place.
7. Test the watch: After reassembly, check the time-setting functionality and ensure the crown screws down securely (if your model has a screw-down crown). Give the watch a gentle shake to ensure the movement is running smoothly.

Common Issues and Troubleshooting

Even with a successful battery replacement, you might encounter a few issues. Knowing how to troubleshoot them can save you a trip to the repair shop.

This is often a sign of a dead battery. Sometimes, batteries sit on shelves for years before being sold. Always check the manufacturing date on the battery packaging. If the battery is new but the watch still stops, the movement may have a problem, or a contact spring might be bent or dirty. Try cleaning the contact points with a cotton swab and a tiny amount of isopropyl alcohol.

Nixon Lodown watch battery

Nixon Lodown watch battery was installed. A battery with a lower voltage than required will not power the movement properly. Double-check the battery number against the old battery. Also, ensure that the battery hold-down spring is making solid contact with the battery terminal.

This is the most serious issue and almost always results from a damaged or improperly seated gasket. If you see condensation under the crystal after a battery change, the watch has lost its water resistance. You will need to remove the case back, dry the movement thoroughly, replace the gasket, and reseal the watch. For any water-related damage, it is wise to consult a professional watchmaker.

Extending the Life of Your Nixon Lodown Watch Battery

While no battery lasts forever, you can take simple steps to maximize the lifespan of your new **Nixon Lodown watch battery**. A typical battery should last between 1.5 and 3 years, depending on the model and usage.

- Store your watch properly: When you are not wearing your Lodown, store it in a cool, dry place. Extreme heat or cold can drain a battery quickly.
- Avoid unnecessary crown usage: Constantly pulling the crown out to stop the second hand or adjust the time can put a slight strain on the circuit. However, if you are not wearing the watch for a long period, pulling the crown out to stop the movement is an excellent way to preserve battery life.
- Keep the crown screwed down: For models with a screw-down crown, always ensure it is fully tightened. This prevents moisture from entering and also protects the internal mechanisms.
- Limit chronograph use: If your Lodown model has a chronograph (stopwatch) function, using it frequently will drain the battery faster than a standard three-hand watch. Use the chronograph only when needed.

When to Seek Professional Help

While replacing the battery in a Nixon Lodown is a manageable task for many, there are situations where professional service is the best course of action. If your watch has a tide function or a digi-analog display, the internal mechanisms are more complex. Additionally, if you notice any signs of corrosion, rust, or previous water damage, attempting a DIY battery replacement could cause further harm.

A professional watchmaker has specialized tools to open the watch without scratching the case and can pressure-test the watch after the battery change to confirm water resistance. For a watch like the Lodown, which is often used in and around water, maintaining that water resistance is arguably more important than saving a few dollars on a DIY job. The cost of professional battery replacement is usually modest and provides peace of mind.

Conclusion

The Nixon Lodown watch is a testament to durable design and functional style. Keeping it running with a fresh **Nixon Lodown watch battery** is a straightforward process when armed with the right information. By identifying the correct battery type, using the proper tools, and following a careful replacement procedure, you can keep your watch on your wrist for years to come. Whether you choose the DIY route or entrust the job to a professional, understanding the battery is key to the longevity of your timepiece. A little care goes a long way in ensuring that your Lodown continues to accompany you on every adventure, from the beach to the boardroom.

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