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Restrictions on usage of power banks onboard Emirates is in full effect

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Using any kind of power bank is prohibited onboard Emirates' flights, effective from tomorrow, 1 October 2025. Emirates provides in-seat charging on all aircraft; however, it still recommends that customers fully charge their devices before flying, especially on longer-duration flights.

A 'power bank' is a portable, rechargeable device primarily designed to provide power to other electronic devices such as smartphones, tablets, laptops, and cameras. Emirates customers are still permitted to carry one power bank onboard with specific conditions, but the power banks may not be used while in the aircraft cabin – neither to charge devices from the power bank, nor to be charged themselves using the aircraft's power source.

Emirates' regulations for power banks onboard:

 Emirates customers may carry one power bank that is under 100 Watt Hours.

 Power banks may not be used to charge any personal devices onboard.

 Charging a power bank using the aircraft's power supply is not permitted.

 All power banks accepted for transport must have capacity rating information available.

 Power banks may not be placed in the overhead stowage bin onboard the aircraft and must now be placed in the seat pocket or in a bag under the seat in front of you.

 Power banks are not permitted in checked luggage (existing rule).

Why is Emirates making this change?

After a comprehensive safety review, Emirates is taking a firm and proactive stance to mitigate risk when it comes to power banks onboard. There has been a significant growth in customers using power banks in recent years, resulting in an increasing number of lithium battery-related incidents onboard flights across the wider aviation industry.

Power banks primarily utilize lithium-ion or lithium-polymer batteries, and their function is as a portable battery pack designed to recharge devices on the go. The batteries contain lithium ions suspended in an electrolyte solution. The ions flow through the electrolyte, travelling back and forth between two electrodes as the battery charges and discharges. If the battery is overcharged or damaged, it may result in 'thermal runaway.' Thermal runaway in batteries is a self-accelerating process where heat generation within a battery cell exceeds its ability to dissipate heat, leading to a rapid and uncontrollable temperature increase. This can result in dangerous consequences like fire, explosions, and the release of toxic gases.

Most phones and sophisticated lithium battery-powered devices have an internal trickle system that slowly adds current into the battery to prevent overcharging, but many basic power banks may not have this safeguard, increasing the risk. All power banks are subject to the new

rules onboard Emirates.

Emirates' new regulations will significantly reduce risks associated with power banks by prohibiting their use onboard the aircraft. Storing power banks in accessible locations within the cabin ensures that, in the rare event of a fire, trained cabin crew can quickly respond and extinguish the fire.