

Portable Power Station Considerations

- 1. Capacity** - think of terms of Watt-Hours (wh). A 500 wh unit should be able to run your CPAP unit overnight. (50 watts over 8 hours= 400wh). It will need to be recharged during the day.
- 2. Inverter Strength** - Jackery 500 has about 500W inverter with some extra for a surge. It can handle many appliances, but it can't handle something like a microwave or electric kettle, which can take 1000 to 1800 W.
- 3. Weight** - 500wh-700wh units run anywhere between 13-22 pounds. What can you safely lift and move? **Some of the new units have wheels on them. (Anker Solix F2000 and some Jackery units).
- 4. Cost** - Units cost about \$1.00/wh. You can get as low as approximately \$0.63/wh with sales. Watch for holiday sales, even Mother's Day, Father's Day, or Memorial Day. Sometimes, Costco will put them on sale, too.
- 5. Charge cycles/Battery chemistry** - Newer units use **Lithium Iron Phosphate** chemistry and can last up to 3500 cycles or ten years of daily use!
- 6. Warranty** - Companies used to warranty for 1-2 years. Now, many have warranties of up to 5 years.
- 7. How to recharge the portable power station** Ideally it has a built in charger; it plugs in to 110 V outlet, instead of an external power brick to charge it. Other options are USB-A, C, or a solar panel, (usually proprietary, designed for their power station).

Some Common Brands:

Jackery <https://www.jackery.com/>
Bluetti <https://www.bluettipower.com/>
EcoFlow <https://us.ecoflow.com/>
Anker <https://www.anker.com/>

Power supplies have made significant improvements over the last few years. Older models work fine and will be appreciated in a power outage. Newer units charge a little faster and have other features like phone apps.