


# Make a Potato Battery!



Potatoes make great mashed potatoes, chips, French fries, and...  
you guessed it: **Batteries!**

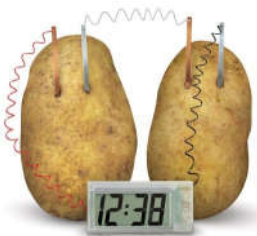
Follow the instructions below to make nature's battery.

## What you'll need:

1. Two big potatoes (long, Oregon-grown ones are good!) 
2. Two short pieces of heavy copper wire (about the width of a spaghetti noodle)
3. Two galvanized nails
4. Three wires with alligator clips on the ends
5. A simple low-voltage LED clock

## Steps:

1. Remove the battery from the LED clock.
2. Insert one nail into the end of each potato.
3. Insert one short piece of the copper wire into each potato, as far away from the nail as possible.
4. Use one alligator-clipped wire to connect to the copper wire in one potato, and clip the other end to the positive (+) terminal in the clock's battery compartment.
5. Use the second alligator clip to connect to the copper wire in the other potato, and clip the other end to the negative (-) terminal in the clock's battery compartment.
6. Finally, use the third alligator clip to connect the nails between the two potatoes.
7. Set your clock, and show off your awesome nature-made battery!



After you connect your potatoes, try out some other fruits and veggies to see if they power your clock.

Do **lemons** work? How about **apples**? **Spaghetti squash**?

Pssst. If you don't have all the tools on hand, the **Oregon Department of Energy** used this handy potato clock kit to make our potato battery: <http://amzn.com/B001T80FQM>.

