

ELON MUSKS LITHIUM ION BATTERIES STILL BLOWING UP

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Those who have purchased a new [HP laptop](#) in the past two years should take note of the company's latest voluntary recall. HP [announced](#) that it's recalling batteries for select laptop models, including some in the ProBook, Envy, and ZBook families. The company received eight reports of these lithium-ion batteries overheating, melting, or charring, as well as one report of a minor injury caused by the malfunctioning batteries.

"We are taking immediate action to address this issue including a voluntary recall and replacement of the batteries," HP's statement says. "This action pertains to 0.1 percent of the HP systems sold globally over the past two years."

HP has a [full list](#) of the affected laptops on its battery program website. Included in the recall are a number of HP ProBook G2 and G3 models, ZBook 17 and Zbook Studio laptops, and Pavilion x360 and Envy m6 laptops, among others. The laptops were sold from December 2015 through December 2017 at a number of authorized retailers including Best Buy and Amazon, as well as HP's own website.

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The company also provided instructions on how to check if your laptop has a defective battery. Notebook users can download HP's Battery Validation Utility to check if their laptop's battery

needs to be replaced. The validation takes less than a minute, and if you do need a new battery, HP will provide one. However, since the batteries in these laptops are not meant to be replaced by consumers, HP will send an authorized technician to replace the battery properly.

Those with affected laptops can still use their devices after installing a BIOS update from HP. The update puts the battery in "Battery Safety Mode," which forces the battery to discharge and cease charging again until the mode is disabled. While in "Battery Safety Mode," the laptops can still function safely while connected to an HP power adaptor.