

# Replacement batteries for sloth-like iPhones now for R430

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For South African consumers to replace the battery of their older Apple iPhones at an iStore or at Digicape, it will cost them R430. But, according to iStore, consumers will have to be prepared to be without their phones for three to five working days.



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On Wednesday, iStore announced the pricing of replacement batteries for out-of-warranty iPhones SE, 6, 6 Plus, 6s, 6s Plus, 7 and 7 Plus, as part of Apple's official worldwide battery replacement programme.

The exact price is R377 plus VAT, and is effective immediately.

Local premium Apple reseller and total solutions provider, Digicape, has also announced its battery replacement process for clients.

“If you suspect that the battery of your iPhone SE, 6, 6 Plus, 6s, 6s Plus, 7 or 7 Plus may need to be replaced, bring your device in to any Digicape store for a diagnosis, or contact the Digicape Service Centre to book an appointment time convenient to you,” explains Mark Parsons, technical director at Digicape. “We have dedicated iOS specialists on standby to offer clients speedy service.”

If the battery is eligible for replacement, clients may take their iPhones home with them while the parts are on order, and return within five to seven working days to have their new battery installed, says Digicape. Installation will take around 45mins, and replacement batteries will cost a maximum of R430.00 incl. VAT. Digicape advises that clients turn off 'Find My iPhone' before booking in their iPhones, to avoid unnecessary delays.

## **Intentionally slowed down older iPhones**

Apple admitted in December that it intentionally slowed down older iPhones with weakening batteries via a software upgrade, to prevent the handset from shutting off abruptly when in use.

That sparked fury among owners of the iconic phone worldwide - and some legal action, with many arguing that had they known, they would have opted to buy new batteries rather than replace their slowed phone.

South Africans affected by the programme need to make a booking at one of the country's 23 iStores, rather than walking in unannounced, and the usual R200 "in-store technical appointment fee for non-iStore customers" will be waived.

"The customer's iPhone will be assessed in store, and if eligible under this programme, will be sent for battery replacement," iStore said in a statement.

"Battery replacement times may differ based on stock availability."

*Source: BDpro*

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