UGH, WHY DOES MY PHONE CHARGE SO SLOWLY?

Learn how charging speeds work and why it matters.

"Low Battery Anxiety" is very real, and you're not alone if the thought of a dying phone battery scares you. A study by LG found that a whopping 90% of people have it, which means they panic when their phone battery drops below 20%. In fact, this condition has created some new behaviors in us, changing the way we interact with each other and the world.

32% of us will 'drop everything' to head home and charge phones

60% have blamed a dead phone for not speaking to a loved one

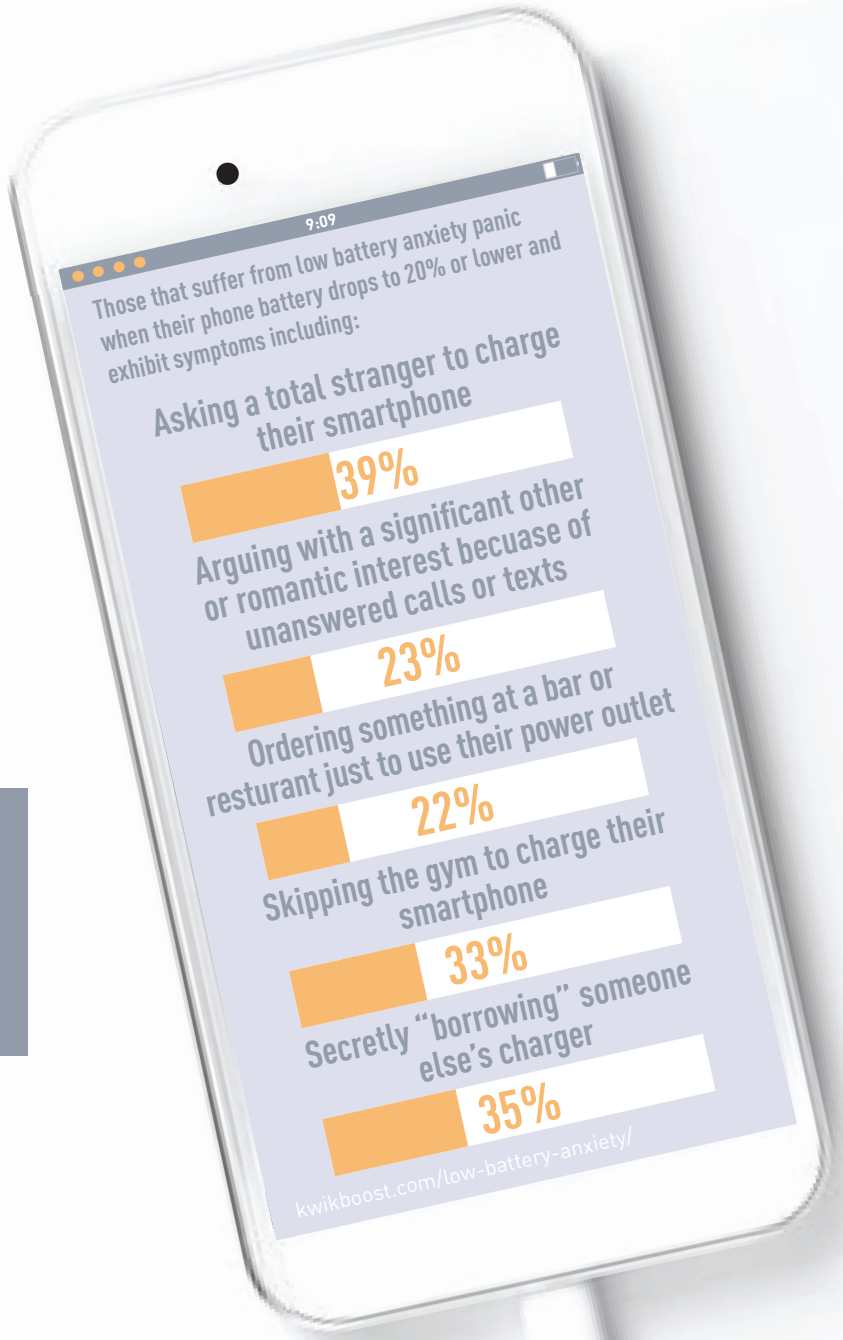
72% won't lend their charger to someone else *– even if it's their backup charger*

WE NEED CHARGING EVERYWHERE

We're also a hyper-connected world, using smartphones and mobile devices more than ever before. As of 2018, we've hit 3.95 billion internet users worldwide. The average smartphone user checks their device a staggering 47 times each day – and the average time spent? About 4.5 hours.

Although we rarely go anywhere without a charger, we still need outlets and ports throughout our environment to let us power up. Portable batteries can only pack so much punch. We look for a place to plug in everywhere now: medical waiting rooms, airports, hotel lobbies, college campuses and commercial office spaces. We're all bringing more devices with us, everywhere we go, and we need easily accessible power and charging options.

- **Over 1/3 of office workers use 3 or more different devices that require power/charging at work**
- **Nearly half of office workers charge devices more than once a day**
- **One of the first things 57% of guests do upon entering their room is charge devices**



AND SPEED MATTERS

We need to charge quickly so that we can move on with our lives. We expect to be able to continue whatever we're doing, whether it's sending work emails or scrolling through memes, night and day. But many of us don't fully understand that USB ports can provide different levels of power and charge devices at different speeds. USB charging ports have amperages that impact how quickly they can charge devices.

This comes into consideration when planning the electrical options for a facility. When you're the one deciding what's required, it helps to understand how USB charging works to make the best decision for your project. Let's dig a little deeper.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN POWER OUTLETS AND USB PORTS

There are two main ways to charge mobile devices: standard power outlets and USB charging ports.

STANDARD POWER OUTLETS

A standard power outlet is usually located in the wall or in furniture. In most commercial and residential spaces, standard power outlets can provide 15 or 20 amps of power at 125 volts AC. Since mobile phones, tablets and even some laptops charge at 5 volts DC, these devices require an adapter to charge. Typically, these adapters are brick-like and bulky. You plug a USB cable into the adapter, then plug the adapter into the standard wall outlet. Additionally, using adapters can be risky. With a growing amount of counterfeit options on the market, you can't always be sure your adapter isn't a fake that can malfunction or even cause injury.

Assuming you have your original OEM charger, the standard power outlet will do the trick. But what happens if you lose your adapter? Or even worse, what happens if your adaptor is so bulky that it takes away your ability to plug anything else into the standard AC receptacle? This becomes a problem worth solving very quickly. Enter USB charging ports.

USB CHARGING PORTS

Because the USB charging receptacles still include AC plug options, you get the best of both worlds. You don't lose an outlet, but you also get the added benefit of convenient USB ports. They can be installed directly into the wall just like a traditional receptacle. Many are offered with combinations of power, USB Type-A and USB Type-C ports, which means you can accommodate any power and charging needs.

Since you need to fend off low-battery anxiety everywhere you go, USB charging products are now found everywhere from weatherproof outdoor stations to units that install directly into furniture (like lobby seating, desks and tables).

These options offer plenty of power and can be integrated right into the electrical plan for a space. But how do you know how much power you need? With all the options out there, how do you know which USB ports to pick?

CHARGING POWER EXPLAINED

USB charging has everything to do with how much power your device draws. For instance, at 0% battery life, the iPhone 8 will draw around 2 amps while charging. This load draw will diminish as the battery comes back to life. So, for single or dual-phone applications, most USB charging receptacles, like the Pass & Seymour® 3.1A version, will do the trick.

Larger, more power-hungry devices will push the limits even higher. And most of us aren't working with just one smartphone. We have multiple phones, tablets, laptops, e-readers and more. With the number of devices required for, let's say, a corporate office, what kind of amperage do you need? In this case, a lower-amperage device will still provide a charge, but likely not at the rate you're looking for. This is especially important in places where the guest experience is an important factor – think restaurants, hotels, hospitals and airports.

CHARGE IN HALF THE TIME WITH ULTRA-FAST USB PORTS

*Time it takes to charge from 0-100% battery life

WHEN YOU NEED EXTRA SPEED

For speedy charging for one or more devices, consider the Ultra-Fast USB Charging Receptacle from Legrand. With an industry-leading 6.0 amps of power, this receptacle can offer a full 3.0 amps of power through a single port and charge your phones and tablets back to life in no time. Type-A and Type-C options mean adapter-free charging for all the latest handheld and tabletop devices.

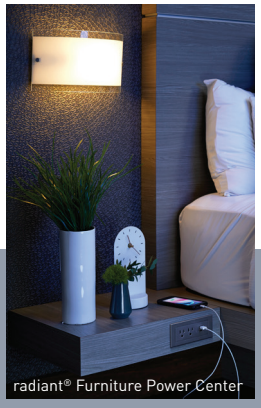
WHY THIS MATTERS TO YOU

With the effect that dying batteries have on our anxiety levels and lost productivity, power and charging is moving beyond the bare minimum. It's not just about having enough outlets to meet code. It's about setting yourself apart with enough charging options to satisfy the needs of today's users.

And it's easy to understand why. After all, you're likely a smartphone user yourself, and you understand the frustration of a low battery warning with nowhere to charge.

USB charging ports, including receptacles and other charging products, can be installed directly into both commercial and residential spaces. These upgrades are relatively simple and cost-effective to make, yet they can increase user (and owner) satisfaction significantly.

- **83% of guests find it frustrating when there isn't an outlet available directly by their bed or nightstand to easily charge their devices**
- **77% of office workers find issues related to power and charging options in their workplace frustrating**
- **81% would prefer power/charging options directly on their desk or workstation**


radiant® Furniture Power Center

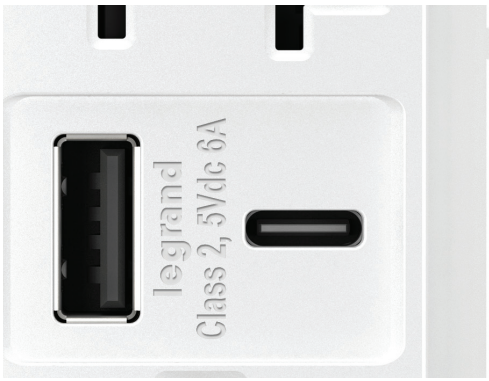
Round Furniture Power Center

Desktop Power Center Slim

SOLUTIONS FOR THE POWER YOU CRAVE

Transition from the traditional. Add USB charging ports into your plans from the start to meet the demands of our hyper-connected, tech-savvy world.

ULTRA-FAST 6A USB CHARGING RECEPTACLES



PLUGTAIL® USB CHARGING RECEPTACLES

RADIANT® WIRELESS CHARGER

RADIANT® USB CHARGING DEVICES

FURNITURE POWER SOLUTIONS

OUTDOOR CHARGING STATION

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Legrand is a global specialist in electrical and network infrastructure solutions. Legrand transforms spaces where people live and work and delivers access to power, light and data to millions of spaces around the world.

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