# Sustainable batteries

## Read the full article at <u>rsc.li/3gc9rtW</u>

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Cooking up more sustainable battery materials

Anodes for lithium-ion batteries are often based on carbon. But while small lithium-ions fit nicely into graphite, larger sodium ions don't. Alternative anode materials include various organic molecules, like carboxylates. However, making these molecules usually involves unsustainable solvent-based reactions. The use of solvents can be avoided by mixing the chemicals with a binder to form an electrode and microwaving them.



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- 1. Describe how a battery can be made from cells.
- 2. What property of graphite makes it suitable for use as an electrode?
- 3. Explain why **not** using solvents can make a process more sustainable.

