

How to Make Potato Power

MATERIALS/PREP

- A large potato
- Two pennies
- Two zinc-plated nails
- Three pieces of copper wire
- A very small light bulb or LED light

INSTRUCTIONS

1. **Cut** the potato in half and then **cut** a small slit into each half, large enough to slide a penny inside.
2. **Wrap** some copper wire around each **penny** a few times. Use a different piece of wire for each penny.
3. **Stick** the pennies in the slits cut into the potato halves.
4. **Wrap** some of the third copper wire around one of the zinc-plated **nails** and **stick** the nail into one of the potato halves.
5. Take the wire connected to the penny in the potato half with the nail and **wrap** some of it around the second nail. **Stick** that second nail into the other potato half.
6. When you **connect** the two loose ends of the copper wires to the light bulb or LED, it will light up.

(NOTE: Be careful when handling the wires because there is a small electric charge running through them. Hydrogen gas may also be a byproduct of the chemical reactions in the potato, so don't perform the experiment near open flames or strong sources of heat.)