

Solder a wire from the negative battery terminal (1) to the negative (ground) terminal of the mini jack socket (2). unsolder the red wire going to the + v battery terminal (3) and solder it to the + v terminal of the mini jack socket (4). Solder a wire from the + v battery terminal to the + v auto disconnect pin on the mini jack socket (5). This is the pin which connects to the + v pin when the mini jack is not inserted, this ensures the batteries are automatically disconnected when the mini jack is plugged in, and automatically connected when the mini jack is removed.

A suitable mini jack can be found at most electronic parts stores. An example is 804-1423 from Farnell.

Note, this hack does nothing to the 4.5v tap, so the tx will not tx unless the batteries are in, but it will charge.

The switching on to charge sequence is as follows:

tx off pz off plug in pz switch on tx green and red led come on until charged, then they both go off if there are no aa cells in, or red led behaves the same as normal if there are aa cells in.