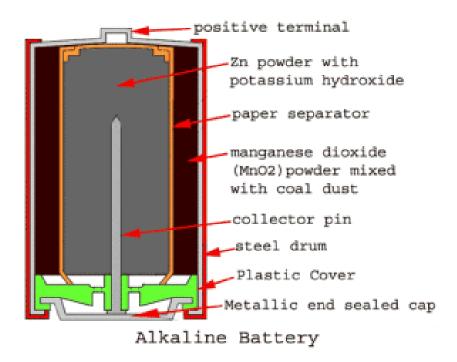
### Alkaline batteries

An **alkaline battery** is a type of primary battery which derives its energy from the reaction between zinc metal and manganese dioxide.

Alkaline battery is improved form of dry cell, in which the electrolyte NH<sub>4</sub>Cl is replaced by KOH..

#### Construction

- A carbon rod (Graphite), acts as cathode. The positive terminal of the battery is projected from the top of this drum.
- ➤ the powdered zinc is mixed with KOH & MnO₂ to get a gel. It is immersed in the electrolyte in the centre of the cell
- The outside cylindrical zinc body is made up of Zinc, It acts as anode.



## Working

The alkaline electrolyte of potassium hydroxide is not part of the reaction, only the zinc and  $MnO_2$  are consumed during discharge.

The half-reactions are:



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At Anode

The half-reactions are:

$$Zn \longrightarrow Zn^{2+} + 2e^{-}Zn^{2+} +$$

$$2OH^- \rightarrow ZnO + H_2O$$

Anode over all: 
$$Zn_{(s)} + 2OH^{-}_{(aq)} \rightarrow ZnO_{(s)} + H_2O_{(l)} + 2e^{-}$$

## At Cathode

$$2MnO_{2(s)} + H_2O_{(l)} + 2e^- \rightarrow Mn_2O_{3(s)} + 2OH^-_{(aq)}$$

## **Overall reaction:**

$$Zn_{(s)} + 2MnO_{2(s)} \rightleftharpoons ZnO_{(s)} + Mn_2O_{3(s)}$$

The alkaline electrolyte of potassium hydroxide always remains in the cell, as there are equal amounts of OH<sup>-</sup> consumed and produced. An alkaline battery cell is rated for 1.5 V.