

Alabama Journeyman Plumbing Pre-Test Practice (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

How to Use This Guide

This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:

1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.

2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 - 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.

3. Learn from the Explanations

After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.

4. Track Your Progress

Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.

5. Simulate the Real Exam

Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.

6. Repeat and Review

Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.

There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!

Questions

- 1. What is the grease retention capacity in pounds for a grease interceptor with a total flow through rating of 10 gallons per minute?**
 - A. 10 pounds**
 - B. 15 pounds**
 - C. 20 pounds**
 - D. 25 pounds**
- 2. Which of the following is a common type of joint used in copper pipe connections?**
 - A. Solder joint**
 - B. Compression joint**
 - C. Welded joint**
 - D. Threaded joint**
- 3. Identification of the maximum load for a 2 inch common vent should be?**
 - A. 2 DFU's**
 - B. 4 DFU's**
 - C. 6 DFU's**
 - D. 8 DFU's**
- 4. What is the general function of a plumbing vent?**
 - A. To equalize pressure in the system**
 - B. To guide wastewater away from fixtures**
 - C. To provide water to appliances**
 - D. To remove clogs from pipes**
- 5. What type of seal is commonly used in faucets to prevent leaking?**
 - A. O-ring seal**
 - B. Gasket seal**
 - C. Compression seal**
 - D. Cartridge seal**

- 6. Which tool is often employed to measure the slope of drainage pipes?**
- A. Level**
 - B. Tape measure**
 - C. Square**
 - D. Caliper**
- 7. How often should backflow preventers be tested?**
- A. Every six months**
 - B. Annually**
 - C. Every two years**
 - D. Only when a problem occurs**
- 8. What is the maximum distance a vent can be from a trap according to plumbing codes?**
- A. 3 feet**
 - B. 10 feet**
 - C. 5 feet**
 - D. 15 feet**
- 9. What is the recommended maximum distance between plumbing fixtures and the main sewer line?**
- A. 15 feet**
 - B. 24 feet**
 - C. 30 feet**
 - D. 50 feet**
- 10. How far should a sump pump discharge line be from the foundation of a home?**
- A. 5 feet**
 - B. 10 feet**
 - C. 15 feet**
 - D. 20 feet**

Answers

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1. C
2. A
3. B
4. A
5. A
6. A
7. B
8. C
9. B
10. B

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Explanations

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1. What is the grease retention capacity in pounds for a grease interceptor with a total flow through rating of 10 gallons per minute?

- A. 10 pounds**
- B. 15 pounds**
- C. 20 pounds**
- D. 25 pounds**

The grease retention capacity of a grease interceptor is determined by its flow-through rate, which indicates how many gallons per minute the interceptor can handle. For a grease interceptor rated at a total flow of 10 gallons per minute, the grease retention capacity is typically calculated based on industry standards, which often suggest that for every gallon per minute of flow, a grease interceptor should have a retention capacity of approximately 2 pounds of grease. In this case, with a flow rating of 10 gallons per minute, you can calculate the expected grease retention capacity as follows: 10 gallons per minute multiplied by the 2 pounds per gallon gives you a total of 20 pounds. Therefore, a grease interceptor with this flow rating would indeed have a grease retention capacity of 20 pounds, making it essential for effective grease management in plumbing systems. This capacity is crucial as it helps prevent grease buildup in drainage systems, thereby reducing the likelihood of clogs and ensuring proper sanitation.

2. Which of the following is a common type of joint used in copper pipe connections?

- A. Solder joint**
- B. Compression joint**
- C. Welded joint**
- D. Threaded joint**

A solder joint is a common type of connection used in copper pipe systems. This method involves heating the copper pipe and the solder material until the solder melts and flows into the joint, creating a strong and durable bond once cooled. Solder joints are widely used in plumbing because they allow for a secure seal that can withstand high pressures and temperatures. This technique is favored for its effectiveness in preventing leaks and its ability to create a smooth interior surface, which is essential for maintaining water flow within the pipes. Solder joints also do not require additional fittings, making them beneficial for certain installations where space is limited. While compression joints, welded joints, and threaded joints are used in different contexts or with different types of materials, they are not as prevalent in copper plumbing as solder joints. Compression joints typically involve fittings that compress against the pipe, welded joints are more common in metalworking but not with copper plumbing, and threaded joints are used primarily with pipes that can accommodate threading, which does not apply to the majority of copper piping setups. Therefore, solder joints are the preferred choice for copper connections in plumbing.

3. Identification of the maximum load for a 2 inch common vent should be?

- A. 2 DFU's
- B. 4 DFU's**
- C. 6 DFU's
- D. 8 DFU's

The identification of the maximum load for a 2-inch common vent is based on the Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC) guidelines, which provide specific values for the Drainage Fixture Units (DFU) corresponding to vent pipe sizes. For a 2-inch common vent, the maximum load is defined as 4 DFUs. This means that a 2-inch diameter vent can adequately handle the venting requirements for a combination of fixtures that collectively represent up to 4 DFUs, ensuring proper airflow and preventing negative pressure that may lead to issues such as siphoning or sewer gas intrusion. This maximum load factor is important for maintaining the efficiency and safety of a plumbing system. Properly sizing and utilizing vent pipes according to their DFU capacity helps prevent plumbing system failures and ensures compliance with local plumbing codes, which are designed to protect public health and ensure safe waste disposal. Proper understanding of these load capacities is crucial for plumbing professionals when designing or evaluating plumbing systems.

4. What is the general function of a plumbing vent?

- A. To equalize pressure in the system**
- B. To guide wastewater away from fixtures
- C. To provide water to appliances
- D. To remove clogs from pipes

The primary function of a plumbing vent is to equalize pressure in the system. Vents allow air to enter the plumbing system, which prevents the formation of a vacuum that can disrupt the flow of wastewater. This equalization of pressure is crucial for maintaining proper drainage and ensuring that fixtures operate effectively. When vents are functioning correctly, they help prevent gurgling sounds and slow drainage, contributing to the overall efficiency of the plumbing system. While guiding wastewater away from fixtures does occur, this is primarily the function of drain pipes, and not the vent itself. Similarly, providing water to appliances or removing clogs are roles fulfilled by other components in the plumbing system, rather than by the vent.

5. What type of seal is commonly used in faucets to prevent leaking?

A. O-ring seal

B. Gasket seal

C. Compression seal

D. Cartridge seal

The O-ring seal is commonly used in faucets to prevent leaking due to its effectiveness in creating a tight, water-resistant seal around various components. O-rings are made from flexible materials such as rubber or silicone, allowing them to compress effectively between two surfaces, like the faucet body and the valve stem. This compression helps to eliminate any gaps where water could escape, ensuring that the faucet operates without leaks. Additionally, O-rings can be easily replaced when worn out, making them a practical choice for long-term maintenance. They also come in various sizes and materials, allowing them to be versatile for different applications within plumbing fixtures. Their simple design and effectiveness make them a preferred option for faucet seals.

6. Which tool is often employed to measure the slope of drainage pipes?

A. Level

B. Tape measure

C. Square

D. Caliper

The tool commonly used to measure the slope of drainage pipes is a level. Measurement of slope is crucial in plumbing as it ensures that wastewater flows smoothly through the drainage system. When installing drainage pipes, a level helps to determine if the pipe has the correct inclination, which is typically a minimum drop of 1/8 inch per foot for proper drainage. Using a level ensures the pipe positions are not only accurate but also prevents issues such as clogging or drainage backflow that can result from improper angles. Tape measures are primarily used for measuring lengths or distances rather than assessing angles or slopes. A square is designed for checking right angles and ensuring structural components are perpendicular, not suited for measuring slope. Calipers serve to measure the dimensions and thickness of materials, which does not apply to assessing the angle or pitch of pipes. Therefore, the level is specifically tailored to the requirement of evaluating the slope in plumbing situations.

7. How often should backflow preventers be tested?

- A. Every six months
- B. Annually**
- C. Every two years
- D. Only when a problem occurs

Backflow preventers are critical devices used in plumbing systems to prevent contaminated water from reversing flow back into the clean water supply. Testing these devices annually ensures they are functioning correctly and effectively safeguarding public health. Regular testing helps identify any wear and tear or malfunctions, allowing for timely repairs and maintenance. While some systems may recommend different testing intervals based on specific local regulations or usage conditions, the annual testing standard is widely accepted as a best practice. This practice minimizes the risk of cross-contamination and ensures compliance with health and safety regulations. Always following the most stringent testing requirements helps ensure that drinking water remains safe and free from potential pollutants.

8. What is the maximum distance a vent can be from a trap according to plumbing codes?

- A. 3 feet
- B. 10 feet
- C. 5 feet**
- D. 15 feet

The maximum distance a vent can be from a trap, according to plumbing codes, is 5 feet. This distance is crucial because it ensures that the venting system effectively maintains the trap seal by preventing siphoning effects that can lead to odors and sewer gases entering the living space. When traps are too far from their vent, it increases the risk of the trap losing its water seal due to atmospheric pressure changes or the draw of wastewater flowing through the pipes. This distance is designed to maintain the balance of pressures within the drainage system, ensuring that wastewater can flow freely while still keeping the trap sealed against gas intrusion. Building codes are developed to ensure safety, functionality, and comfort in plumbing systems, and adhering to these standards is necessary for proper installation and maintenance in any plumbing work.

9. What is the recommended maximum distance between plumbing fixtures and the main sewer line?

- A. 15 feet**
- B. 24 feet**
- C. 30 feet**
- D. 50 feet**

The recommended maximum distance between plumbing fixtures and the main sewer line is 24 feet. This guideline is crucial for ensuring that wastewater can effectively flow into the sewer system without issues such as clogs or backflow. Keeping the distance within this limit helps maintain adequate drainage and ventilation for the plumbing system, promoting optimal functionality. When plumbing fixtures are more than 24 feet away from the main sewer line, it can lead to inadequate drainage due to gravity not being sufficient to move waste downhill effectively. Additionally, plumbing codes often emphasize maintaining this standard to align with best practices for drainage systems, ensuring that the plumbing works efficiently. This distance also accounts for other factors like the diameter of the pipes used and the type of fixtures, but 24 feet serves as a generally accepted maximum limit that supports reliable plumbing performance.

10. How far should a sump pump discharge line be from the foundation of a home?

- A. 5 feet**
- B. 10 feet**
- C. 15 feet**
- D. 20 feet**

The recommended distance for a sump pump discharge line to be from the foundation of a home is 10 feet. This distance is important to prevent water from seeping back toward the foundation, which can lead to issues such as flooding in basements or crawl spaces, as well as long-term structural damage due to water exposure. Discharging the water too close to the home can increase the risk of erosion, reduce the effectiveness of the drainage system, and create conditions favorable for moisture accumulation that could lead to mold growth. By adhering to the 10-foot guideline, the water has a better chance to dissipate properly into the surrounding soil, thus protecting the home's foundation and overall integrity. This distinction is critical for achieving effective drainage systems and maintaining a dry environment around the house.

Next Steps

Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.

As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.

If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at hello@examzify.com.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

<https://aljourneymanplumbingpretest.examzify.com>

We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!