

ALE BUILDING LAWS PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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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

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- 1. For R-5 zoned properties with side and rear firewalls, what percentage of the side property line may be used for a firewall?**
 - A. 60%
 - B. 65%
 - C. 70%
 - D. 75%

- 2. Which term describes a yard or court providing egress to a public way for one or more required exits?**
 - A. Exit area
 - B. Exit court
 - C. Exit zone
 - D. Exit passage

- 3. What is the term used for a building that is unsafe in case of fire due to its flammability or inadequate exits?**
 - A. Fire hazard
 - B. Fire trap
 - C. Fire escape
 - D. Fireproof structure

- 4. What construction requirement is enforced regarding temporary walkways at construction sites?**
 - A. Must be made of wood
 - B. Must be accessible to heavy machinery
 - C. Must have a minimum width of 1.2 m
 - D. Must have railings less than 1 m high

- 5. What is the term for the portion of the right of way at grade level for pedestrian use?**
 - A. carriageway
 - B. pedestrian access-way
 - C. crosswalk
 - D. sidewalk

- 6. What is the number of storeys in a low-rise building?**
- A. 1-3
 - B. 1-5
 - C. 1-7
 - D. 1-10
- 7. What is the occupant load range that requires only one exit according to PD 1096?**
- A. 1-9
 - B. 10-499
 - C. 500-999
 - D. 1000 or more
- 8. What is the purpose of clear width requirements in exit stair construction?**
- A. To accommodate equipment transport
 - B. To ensure safe egress during emergencies
 - C. To allow for architectural aesthetics
 - D. To reduce construction costs
- 9. What is the maximum dimension of grating openings found on a sidewalk?**
- A. 10 mm
 - B. 13 mm
 - C. 15 mm
 - D. 20 mm
- 10. What is the minimum height of safety railing surrounding open excavations?**
- A. 1 m
 - B. 1.5 m
 - C. 0.5 m
 - D. 2 m

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. For R-5 zoned properties with side and rear firewalls, what percentage of the side property line may be used for a firewall?

- A. 60%
- B. 65%**
- C. 70%
- D. 75%

For R-5 zoned properties, the regulations allow a significant portion of the side property line to be utilized for a firewall in order to accommodate specific building requirements and maintain safety standards. In this case, 65% of the side property line can be dedicated to a firewall. This allowance is typically established based on a balance between utilizing available land and ensuring that buildings are constructed with adequate fire separation from adjacent properties. By permitting a firewall to extend up to 65%, it helps enhance fire safety while still providing space for other structural and design needs. Understanding the percentage designated for firewalls in R-5 zoning is essential for compliance with building codes, as this knowledge informs property developers and builders of how much of the side property line can legally be used for fire protection purposes.

2. Which term describes a yard or court providing egress to a public way for one or more required exits?

- A. Exit area
- B. Exit court**
- C. Exit zone
- D. Exit passage

The term "exit court" is the correct choice because it specifically refers to a designated area that connects a building's exit to a public way, allowing for safe and accessible egress. This concept is integral in building codes and safety regulations, as it ensures that occupants can exit a structure efficiently and legally during emergencies, such as fires or other evacuations. An exit court must be designed to provide unobstructed access and must meet specific width and clearance requirements to facilitate the flow of people. Not only does it serve as a physical transition from the building to the public domain, but it also supports the overall safety framework mandated by building laws, ensuring that necessary exits are readily available. Other terms like "exit area," "exit zone," and "exit passage" do not accurately capture the idea of a yard or court that specifically provides egress to a public way. They either refer to broader spaces within a building's exiting path or do not fulfill the specific definition needed for compliance with building safety regulations.

3. What is the term used for a building that is unsafe in case of fire due to its flammability or inadequate exits?

- A. Fire hazard
- B. Fire trap**
- C. Fire escape
- D. Fireproof structure

The term "fire trap" is used to describe a building that poses significant risks in the case of a fire due to its flammability or inadequate exits. This designation indicates that the structure is likely to contribute to the danger of a fire situation, often because it lacks proper means of egress or has materials that readily ignite and propagate flames. A fire trap can lead to severe consequences, such as entrapment of occupants and increased difficulty for firefighting efforts. In contrast, a "fire hazard" refers more broadly to conditions or materials that could potentially cause a fire, rather than describing a complete structure. A "fire escape" is specifically a designated exit used to escape a building during a fire emergency, while "fireproof structure" suggests a building designed with materials resistant to flames, which is not applicable in the context of a building deemed unsafe due to these reasons. Thus, identifying this type of building as a fire trap accurately reflects its critical safety issues.

4. What construction requirement is enforced regarding temporary walkways at construction sites?

- A. Must be made of wood
- B. Must be accessible to heavy machinery
- C. Must have a minimum width of 1.2 m**
- D. Must have railings less than 1 m high

The requirement that temporary walkways at construction sites must have a minimum width of 1.2 meters is critical for ensuring safety and accessibility. This width is specified to accommodate pedestrian traffic comfortably and to reduce the risk of accidents. A walkway that is too narrow can lead to congestion, making it difficult for workers to navigate safely, especially when carrying materials or tools. In addition, a width of 1.2 meters provides enough space for two people to pass each other, facilitating better workflow and minimizing the potential for collisions or falls. This regulation is part of broader safety standards aimed at protecting construction workers and ensuring efficient operations at construction sites.

5. What is the term for the portion of the right of way at grade level for pedestrian use?

- A. carriageway
- B. pedestrian access-way**
- C. crosswalk
- D. sidewalk

The correct term for the portion of the right of way at grade level designated for pedestrian use is "sidewalk." This area is specifically designed for pedestrians to walk safely alongside roadways, separate from vehicular traffic. Sidewalks are crucial for providing a safe passage for pedestrians, allowing them to navigate urban environments without having to share the designated traffic lanes with vehicles. In terms of other definitions, a crosswalk refers to the marked path across a road where pedestrians may cross, which may or may not be adjacent to sidewalks. A carriageway typically refers to the part of the road used for vehicles, rather than pedestrians. Meanwhile, a pedestrian access-way describes pathways for pedestrians but doesn't specifically denote the typical infrastructure meant for walking along streets. Thus, the most accurate choice that aligns with the description of a pedestrian-use area at grade level is indeed the sidewalk.

6. What is the number of storeys in a low-rise building?

- A. 1-3
- B. 1-5**
- C. 1-7
- D. 1-10

A low-rise building is typically defined by its limited height, which generally categorizes it as having a small number of storeys. The correct range of storeys for a low-rise building is 1 to 5. This range allows for a variety of building types that maintain a lower profile in relation to surrounding structures, promoting a more accessible and community-friendly environment. Buildings with more than five storeys are often classified as mid-rise or high-rise, which implies a different set of building regulations, design considerations, fire safety measures, and structural requirements. Therefore, the classification of a building as low-rise is significant in understanding building codes, zoning laws, and the types of construction practices that apply. Recognizing this categorization aids in compliance with local building regulations and helps in planning for both vertical and horizontal space use within urban areas.

7. What is the occupant load range that requires only one exit according to PD 1096?

- A. 1-9**
- B. 10-499
- C. 500-999
- D. 1000 or more

According to PD 1096, which focuses on the National Building Code in the Philippines, the occupant load is a significant factor in determining the number of exits required for a building. For a range of 1 to 9 occupants, a single exit is adequate for safety and compliance with building regulations. This provision is in place because, with such a small number of occupants, the risk associated with evacuation is minimal, and having just one exit is sufficient for allowing safe egress. As the occupant load increases, the code stipulates more exits to ensure a safe and effective evacuation. This is based on the principle that as more people occupy a space, the potential for congestion during an emergency rises, necessitating additional exits to facilitate a quick and safe escape. Therefore, the designated range where only one exit is required aligns with safety standards and practical considerations.

8. What is the purpose of clear width requirements in exit stair construction?

- A. To accommodate equipment transport
- B. To ensure safe egress during emergencies**
- C. To allow for architectural aesthetics
- D. To reduce construction costs

The purpose of clear width requirements in exit stair construction is to ensure safe egress during emergencies. In situations such as fire evacuations or other emergencies, it is critical that individuals can exit a building quickly and safely. Clear width requirements specify the minimum unobstructed width of stairways to facilitate the movement of people. This is particularly important in preventing bottlenecks and ensuring that all occupants can evacuate efficiently and without delays. In emergencies, every second counts, and the stairways must accommodate the maximum number of people moving in one direction—away from danger. Therefore, adherence to these clear width specifications is a vital safety measure designed to protect lives and enhance the overall effectiveness of an emergency evacuation plan.

9. What is the maximum dimension of grating openings found on a sidewalk?

- A. 10 mm
- B. 13 mm**
- C. 15 mm
- D. 20 mm

The maximum dimension of grating openings found on a sidewalk is crucial for ensuring safety and accessibility. Grating openings must be sized appropriately to prevent injuries, particularly to pedestrians, including children and individuals with disabilities. The maximum dimension of 13 mm is established within various building codes and accessibility guidelines to ensure that small objects, such as cane tips or a child's shoe, cannot fall through the openings. This dimension strikes a balance between structural integrity and safety, allowing for sufficient drainage while still protecting pedestrians from tripping hazards or entrapment. Other dimensions, such as 10 mm, 15 mm, or 20 mm, either do not meet the safety standards necessary for pedestrian environments or may fail to provide adequate drainage without compromising safety.

10. What is the minimum height of safety railing surrounding open excavations?

- A. 1 m**
- B. 1.5 m
- C. 0.5 m
- D. 2 m

The correct minimum height of safety railing surrounding open excavations is 1.5 meters. The regulations regarding the safety of open excavations have been established to ensure the protection of workers and the public from falls into unsafe areas. The rationale for this height is based on national safety standards that recognize the need for a railing capable of preventing individuals from falling over or climbing over it. A height of 1.5 meters provides an adequate barrier to deter falls, and it is consistent with similar regulations found in construction safety protocols. Understanding these standards is crucial for compliance with building laws and ensuring a safe working environment around excavation sites. The other options presented do not meet the regulatory requirements for safety railings at excavations, underscoring the importance of adhering to the established measurement to safeguard individuals in these potentially dangerous areas.

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://alebuildinglaws.examzify.com>

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

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