

# ARIZONA PLUMBING PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

## STUDY GUIDE



## SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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<https://arizonaplumbing.examzify.com>



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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. Why is it important to properly slope drainage pipes?**
  - A. To promote water flow
  - B. To avoid freezing
  - C. To minimize noise
  - D. To reduce pressure buildup
- 2. What type of valve is commonly used for shutting off water supply in plumbing systems?**
  - A. Check valve
  - B. Ball valve
  - C. Gate valve
  - D. Pressure relief valve
- 3. If an existing sewer pipe is 3 feet below the benchmark and the contractor's level reads 4'-3" above the benchmark, what is the depth of the trench to be excavated, considering a 1/8 inch per foot incline?**
  - A. 2 feet below finish grade
  - B. 2 feet 2 1/2 inches below finish grade
  - C. 3 feet 4 inches below finish grade
  - D. 4 feet below finish grade
- 4. What does flushing the water heater help to maintain?**
  - A. Temperature consistency
  - B. Pressure relief
  - C. Clean tank environment
  - D. Reduced water hardness
- 5. What is the proper method for connecting PVC pipes?**
  - A. Use metal clamps and screws
  - B. Use PVC cement and ensure proper fitting alignment
  - C. Heat the ends of the pipes before joining
  - D. Use duct tape for a quick seal

- 6. How is a plumbing bidet typically installed?**
- A. Connected to the main sewer line
  - B. Connected to the toilet water supply or directly to a faucet supply
  - C. Installed independently with its own water line
  - D. Mounted on the wall
- 7. The last support hanger on a fire sprinkler branch of 1 1/4 inch nominal pipe size may be no more than \_\_\_\_ from the end.**
- A. 24 inches
  - B. 36 inches
  - C. 48 inches
  - D. 60 inches
- 8. What is the primary role of a plumbing vent system?**
- A. To supply fresh water to the plumbing system
  - B. To allow sewer gases to escape
  - C. To maintain proper pressure in the drainage system
  - D. Both allow sewer gases to escape and maintain pressure
- 9. What is the sidewall area in square inches of a seepage pit that measures 6 feet across and 14 feet deep?**
- A. 28,274.56 square inches
  - B. 37,981.44 square inches
  - C. 47,123.84 square inches
  - D. 56,548.32 square inches
- 10. Copper water piping, 1-1/4 inch and smaller, must be supported every how many feet horizontally?**
- A. 4 feet
  - B. 6 feet
  - C. 8 feet
  - D. 10 feet



## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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## 1. Why is it important to properly slope drainage pipes?

- A. To promote water flow
- B. To avoid freezing
- C. To minimize noise
- D. To reduce pressure buildup

*Properly sloping drainage pipes is crucial to promoting water flow. When drainage pipes are installed with the appropriate slope, gravity helps facilitate the movement of wastewater through the system. A correct slope ensures that the water and waste can flow freely towards the sewer or septic system without stagnation. This is essential for preventing clogs and ensuring the system's efficiency. If the slope is too shallow, water may not flow adequately, potentially leading to backups and drainage issues. Conversely, if the slope is too steep, it can cause the water to flow too quickly, which could prevent solids from being carried along with the liquid. Finding the right angle optimally balances these concerns, ensuring that both liquid and solid waste are effectively transported. While avoiding freezing, minimizing noise, and reducing pressure buildup are important considerations in plumbing systems, the primary focus of properly sloping drainage pipes directly relates to the effective promotion of water flow.*

## 2. What type of valve is commonly used for shutting off water supply in plumbing systems?

- A. Check valve
- B. Ball valve
- C. Gate valve
- D. Pressure relief valve

*The ball valve is widely used in plumbing systems for shutting off water supply due to its design and functionality. This type of valve features a spherical disc, or ball, that has a hole in the middle, which allows or restricts the flow of water when rotated. Opening the valve aligns the hole with the pipe, enabling smooth flow, while closing it turns the ball so the hole is perpendicular to the flow, effectively halting water passage. Ball valves are favored because they provide a reliable seal and can be operated quickly, allowing for immediate control over water supply. They are particularly effective for on/off services and have a long lifespan, making them a practical choice for both residential and commercial applications. In contrast, the check valve is designed to prevent backflow, the gate valve is traditionally used for isolation but requires significant turns to open or close fully and may not provide as tight a seal over time, and the pressure relief valve is specifically engineered to manage pressure, not primarily for shutting off the supply. Each of these alternatives serves distinct purposes and functions within plumbing systems, but for the specific task of shutting off water supply, the ball valve is the most efficient and effective choice.*

3. If an existing sewer pipe is 3 feet below the benchmark and the contractor's level reads 4'-3" above the benchmark, what is the depth of the trench to be excavated, considering a 1/8 inch per foot incline?

- A. 2 feet below finish grade
- B. 2 feet 2 1/2 inches below finish grade**
- C. 3 feet 4 inches below finish grade
- D. 4 feet below finish grade

*To determine the depth of the trench to be excavated, it's essential first to calculate the vertical distance between the existing sewer pipe and the contractor's level reading above the benchmark. The existing sewer pipe is located 3 feet below the benchmark. The contractor's level reading is 4 feet 3 inches above the benchmark, which converts to 4.25 feet. Now, if you consider the depth of the existing pipe, you combine these distances. The distance from the contractor's level down to the existing sewer pipe is: - From the benchmark, you have: - 4.25 feet (contractor's level) + 3 feet (depth of the pipe) = 7.25 feet. Next, you account for the required slope or incline of 1/8 inch per foot. To find this, you need to convert 1/8 inch to feet, which is 0.0104 feet. If we assume the trench will continue a certain horizontal distance (let's say 1 foot for simplicity), then the additional depth required for that distance would be 0.0104 feet. For a horizontal run of around 1 foot, this means we add approximately 0.0104 feet to*

4. What does flushing the water heater help to maintain?

- A. Temperature consistency
- B. Pressure relief
- C. Clean tank environment**
- D. Reduced water hardness

*Flushing the water heater is primarily intended to help maintain a clean tank environment. Over time, sediment and mineral deposits can accumulate in the bottom of the tank, especially in areas with hard water. This buildup can lead to reduced efficiency, potential damage to the heating elements, and a shorter lifespan for the water heater. By flushing the tank, you remove these deposits, ensuring a cleaner environment that allows the heater to operate effectively and efficiently. While temperature consistency, pressure relief, and reduced water hardness may be influenced by various factors related to water heater operation and maintenance, they are not the primary outcomes of the flushing process. The main goal of flushing is to remove accumulated sediment, hence maintaining a clean tank environment. This not only enhances the performance and efficiency of the water heater but also contributes to better water quality delivered from the system.*

## 5. What is the proper method for connecting PVC pipes?

- A. Use metal clamps and screws
- B. Use PVC cement and ensure proper fitting alignment**
- C. Heat the ends of the pipes before joining
- D. Use duct tape for a quick seal

*The proper method for connecting PVC pipes is to use PVC cement while ensuring the fittings are aligned correctly. PVC cement is a solvent that chemically bonds the surfaces of the PVC pipes and fittings, creating a strong, permanent connection. This process is critical because it requires the pipe ends and the fitting to be cleaned and primed before applying the cement. Proper alignment is essential to prevent issues like leaks or misaligned fixtures that could lead to plumbing problems down the line. Using metal clamps and screws, heating the ends of the pipes, or duct tape does not create reliable connections for PVC. Metal clamps and screws may work for other types of materials but are not suitable for PVC, which relies on chemical bonding. Heating the ends of the pipes is a method applicable to different types of plastic but is unnecessary and potentially damaging for PVC connections. Duct tape, while it can provide a temporary solution, fails to create a robust, long-lasting seal that is expected in plumbing systems. Therefore, the use of PVC cement is the standard and best practice in connecting PVC pipes.*

## 6. How is a plumbing bidet typically installed?

- A. Connected to the main sewer line
- B. Connected to the toilet water supply or directly to a faucet supply**
- C. Installed independently with its own water line
- D. Mounted on the wall

*A plumbing bidet is typically installed by connecting it either to the toilet's water supply line or directly to a faucet supply. This installation method takes advantage of existing plumbing and ensures that the bidet can function properly by receiving the necessary water supply for cleaning purposes. Connecting the bidet to the toilet water supply is common because it allows the bidet to utilize the same source of water that fills the toilet tank, which is typically a cold water supply. In some cases, the bidet may also be connected directly to a dedicated faucet supply, which can provide a more flexible installation option, especially in bathrooms designed specifically for bidet use. This approach is practical, as it minimizes the need for additional plumbing modifications and keeps the overall installation process simpler and more cost-effective. A bidet requiring its own independent plumbing line or being wall-mounted would complicate installation and maintenance, which is not typical for standard installations.*

7. The last support hanger on a fire sprinkler branch of 1 1/4 inch nominal pipe size may be no more than \_\_\_\_ from the end.

- A. 24 inches
- B. 36 inches
- C. 48 inches**
- D. 60 inches

*In fire sprinkler systems, it's crucial to ensure that the piping is adequately supported to prevent sagging and potential failure under pressure. For a branch pipe with a nominal size of 1 1/4 inches, the code specifies that the last support hanger should be placed no more than 48 inches from the end of the branch. This distance ensures there is sufficient support to maintain the integrity and proper functioning of the sprinkler system. Maintaining the specified distance helps reduce stress on joints and promotes the longevity of the system. While other choices present values greater than 48 inches, accepting those would violate standard plumbing and fire protection codes intended to ensure safety and reliability in fire suppression systems. Thus, the specified maximum distance of 48 inches is vital for adherence to industry regulations and providing adequate support for the pipe.*

8. What is the primary role of a plumbing vent system?

- A. To supply fresh water to the plumbing system
- B. To allow sewer gases to escape
- C. To maintain proper pressure in the drainage system
- D. Both allow sewer gases to escape and maintain pressure**

*The primary role of a plumbing vent system encompasses both allowing sewer gases to escape and maintaining proper pressure in the drainage system. Venting is essential in plumbing because it provides an escape path for gases that could build up in the drainage system, ensuring a safe and odor-free environment. Without adequate venting, sewer gases could potentially enter living spaces, posing health hazards and unpleasant odors. Vent pipes extend from the drainage system to the outside air, effectively directing these gases away from the home. Additionally, the venting system plays a crucial role in maintaining atmospheric pressure in the drainage lines. When water flows down the pipes, it can create a vacuum that would hinder the flow of wastewater. The vent allows air to enter the drainage system, thereby equalizing pressure and promoting the smooth movement of waste through the pipes without disruption. Thus, the venting system is fundamental in ensuring both the safe expulsion of sewer gases and the maintenance of proper pressure within the plumbing system, making the answer that encompasses both functions the most accurate.*

9. What is the sidewall area in square inches of a seepage pit that measures 6 feet across and 14 feet deep?

- A. 28,274.56 square inches
- B. 37,981.44 square inches**
- C. 47,123.84 square inches
- D. 56,548.32 square inches

To determine the sidewall area of a seepage pit, which has a cylindrical shape, you can use the formula for the lateral surface area of a cylinder. The formula is:  $\text{Lateral Surface Area} = 2\pi r h$  where  $r$  is the radius of the cylinder and  $h$  is the height (or depth in this case). In this question, the pit measures 6 feet across, so the radius  $r$  is half of that:  $r = \frac{6 \text{ feet}}{2} = 3 \text{ feet}$ . Next, to convert feet to inches (since we need the answer in square inches), we multiply by 12:  $r = 3 \text{ feet} \times 12 = 36 \text{ inches}$ . The depth of the pit is given as 14 feet. Similarly, convert this value to inches:  $h = 14 \text{ feet} \times 12 = 168 \text{ inches}$ . Now, substitute these values into the lateral surface area formula:  $\text{Lateral Surface Area} = 2\pi (36 \text{ inches})$

10. Copper water piping, 1-1/4 inch and smaller, must be supported every how many feet horizontally?

- A. 4 feet
- B. 6 feet**
- C. 8 feet
- D. 10 feet

Copper water piping with a diameter of 1-1/4 inch and smaller must be supported horizontally every 6 feet. This requirement is put in place to ensure the structural integrity of the piping system and to prevent sagging or bending that could lead to leaks or failure over time. Proper support helps maintain the alignment of the pipes and reduces stress that could lead to eventual wear, especially in areas subjected to vibrations or thermal expansion. It is important to adhere to these support guidelines as they are established by plumbing codes to ensure safety and reliability in plumbing installations. Supporting the pipes at the specified intervals allows for proper drainage, thermal expansion, and contraction of the pipes in different temperature environments.



## 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](mailto:hello@examzify.com).

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

<https://arizonaplumbing.examzify.com>

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

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