

ATLANTA PIPEFITTER PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

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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. What are 'wyes' in pipefitting?**
 - A. Fittings that allow two pipes to merge into one
 - B. Fittings that allow one pipe to split into two
 - C. Types of plumbing valves
 - D. Brackets used for supporting pipes
- 2. What is the function of a shock absorber in piping systems?**
 - A. To reduce friction
 - B. To mitigate water hammer effects
 - C. To increase fluid velocity
 - D. To minimize thermal expansion
- 3. What is the O.D (outside diameter) of a 20" nominal pipe size?**
 - A. 18 inches
 - B. 20 inches
 - C. 22 inches
 - D. 24 inches
- 4. What is the primary purpose of a lighter in welding?**
 - A. To cool down the welded area
 - B. To ignite the gas used for welding
 - C. To hold the welding rod in place
 - D. To measure the temperature of the weld
- 5. What is the formula for finding the take-off of a 45° butt weld Ell (4" thru 24")?**
 - A. Pipe diameter divided by 2
 - B. 0.5 x pipe diameter
 - C. 0.625 x pipe diameter
 - D. 0.75 x pipe diameter
- 6. What is the main purpose of a pipe fitting?**
 - A. To maintain temperature
 - B. To connect, redirect, or terminate piping systems
 - C. To measure fluid pressure
 - D. To support heavy loads

- 7. What is a common type of pipe used in plumbing systems?**
- A. Copper
 - B. Plastic
 - C. Both copper and plastic
 - D. Steel
- 8. If the take-off for a 14" pipe in a 90° butt weld ell is required, what is the measurement?**
- A. 10
 - B. 14
 - C. 16
 - D. 18
- 9. What is the formula for calculating the take-off of a long radius 90° butt weld elbow?**
- A. Pipe diameter multiplied by two
 - B. 1.5 times pipe diameter
 - C. Pipe diameter plus two inches
 - D. Two times the radius of the pipe
- 10. What does the term W.O.G. signify in relation to piping systems?**
- A. Water Oil Gas
 - B. Weight Of Gas
 - C. Welded Outer Grade
 - D. Wire Out Gauge

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What are 'wyes' in pipefitting?

- A. Fittings that allow two pipes to merge into one
- B. Fittings that allow one pipe to split into two**
- C. Types of plumbing valves
- D. Brackets used for supporting pipes

Wyes are specifically designed fittings in pipefitting that enable one pipe to branch off into two separate pipes. This design allows for efficient flow splitting without significant disruption in the system's pressure or flow direction. The shape of a wye fitting resembles the letter 'Y,' which is indicative of its function; it is used to connect a main line to a secondary line, allowing for the smooth transition of fluids from one source into two distinct directions. In practical applications, wyes are crucial for proper drainage or piping systems where a diversion is required. They maintain the structural integrity of the piping by making smooth bends, which is important for minimizing turbulence and facilitating better flow characteristics compared to other types of fittings that may cause more abrupt changes in direction.

2. What is the function of a shock absorber in piping systems?

- A. To reduce friction
- B. To mitigate water hammer effects**
- C. To increase fluid velocity
- D. To minimize thermal expansion

The primary function of a shock absorber in piping systems is to mitigate water hammer effects. Water hammer is a pressure surge that occurs when a fluid in motion is forced to stop or change direction suddenly. This phenomenon can create a loud banging noise and can lead to damage in the piping system due to the intense pressure fluctuations. Shock absorbers, often referred to as "shock tanks" or "arrestors," are installed in a piping system specifically to absorb the sudden kinetic energy created by these pressure surges. By doing this, they help stabilize the pressure within the system, preventing the abrupt changes that lead to wear, potential leakage, or even catastrophic failure of pipes. In contrast, other functions such as reducing friction, increasing fluid velocity, or minimizing thermal expansion are important in their own right but do not directly relate to the specific role that shock absorbers play in addressing water hammer issues. Friction reduction is typically achieved through pipe material selection and surface treatment, while fluid velocity is managed by pipe diameter and pump specifications. Minimizing thermal expansion involves design considerations like expansion joints or flexible fittings rather than shock absorber incorporation.

3. What is the O.D (outside diameter) of a 20" nominal pipe size?

- A. 18 inches
- B. 20 inches**
- C. 22 inches
- D. 24 inches

In plumbing and piping systems, nominal pipe size (NPS) is a standardized designation used to categorize pipe dimensions. For a 20-inch nominal pipe size, the corresponding outside diameter (O.D.) is standardized at approximately 24 inches. This standardization allows for some variation in wall thickness and internal diameter based on the specific type of pipe being used (like schedule 40 or schedule 80), but the outside diameter remains consistent. It's important to note that the nominal size does not represent the actual exterior measurement of the pipe. Instead, it serves as a standardized reference for pipe fittings and connectivity. Thus, in the case of a 20-inch nominal pipe, the O.D. is more accurately aligned with measurement standards determined by organizations like the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). The correct knowledge concerning nominal sizes and their actual dimensions is crucial for piping applications to ensure proper fit and function in installations. Understanding these specifics aids pipefitters in selecting the right pipe and fittings for their work.

4. What is the primary purpose of a lighter in welding?

- A. To cool down the welded area
- B. To ignite the gas used for welding**
- C. To hold the welding rod in place
- D. To measure the temperature of the weld

The primary purpose of a lighter in welding is to ignite the gas used for welding. In many welding processes, especially those that involve gas such as oxy-acetylene welding, a lighter is essential for initiating the flame. The lighter provides the necessary spark or flame to ignite the fuel gas and oxygen mixture, enabling the welder to create a focused flame that can melt the base material and the filler rod. This ignition is crucial as it sets the stage for the welding operation to commence effectively. Other functions indicated in the choices do not align with the roles typical of a lighter in welding. For instance, cooling the welded area, holding the welding rod in place, or measuring the temperature of the weld are tasks typically carried out by different tools or techniques specifically designed for those purposes. Understanding the function of a lighter helps clarify its importance in the welding process, facilitating successful welds.

5. What is the formula for finding the take-off of a 45° butt weld Ell (4" thru 24")?

- A. Pipe diameter divided by 2
- B. 0.5 x pipe diameter
- C. 0.625 x pipe diameter**
- D. 0.75 x pipe diameter

The take-off for a 45° butt weld elbow, commonly referred to as an "ell," can be calculated using a specific formula which accounts for the geometry of the elbow. For pipe diameters ranging from 4 inches to 24 inches, the formula is derived from the standard dimensions of the elbow and the way it interacts with the flow of fluids. The correct factor to multiply by the pipe diameter to determine the take-off for a 45° elbow is 0.625. This is based on industry standards which establish that a 45° elbow, when installed, results in a take-off that reflects the dimensional relationship between the angle of the elbow and the pipe diameter. Specifically, the take-off measurement is essential for ensuring that fittings fit properly within a piped system without needing excessive alterations and that they maintain flow characteristics. In scenarios where the take-off might seem to align with other options—like diameters being divided by 2 or using other multipliers—it is important to remember that these factors do not accurately reflect the operational needs or design specifications for a 45° elbow. Therefore, utilizing 0.625 times the pipe diameter delivers the correct calculation for a 45° butt weld ell, ensuring compatibility and correctness in piping design.

6. What is the main purpose of a pipe fitting?

- A. To maintain temperature
- B. To connect, redirect, or terminate piping systems**
- C. To measure fluid pressure
- D. To support heavy loads

The primary purpose of a pipe fitting is to connect, redirect, or terminate piping systems. Pipe fittings play a crucial role in the overall integrity and functionality of plumbing and piping networks. By facilitating the joining of different sections of pipe, they help create a closed system that allows for the efficient flow of liquids and gases. Additionally, fittings can change the direction of piping—such as in bends or elbows—allowing systems to navigate around obstacles while maintaining proper flow paths. They can also be used to terminate pipes at various endpoints, ensuring that the system functions as intended. In terms of the other options, maintaining temperature relates to thermal insulation or thermal management, which is not the primary role of pipe fittings. Measuring fluid pressure is a function of pressure gauges or sensors rather than pipe fittings themselves. Supporting heavy loads is typically the function of structural elements or supports rather than fittings used in plumbing or piping systems. Thus, the connecting and redirecting capabilities of pipe fittings are central to their purpose in any piping system.

7. What is a common type of pipe used in plumbing systems?

- A. Copper
- B. Plastic
- C. Both copper and plastic**
- D. Steel

Both copper and plastic pipes are widely used in plumbing systems, making the choice of both materials the correct answer. Copper piping has been a traditional standard for plumbing due to its durability, resistance to corrosion, and antibacterial properties. It is commonly utilized in water supply lines, heating systems, and in residential applications. On the other hand, plastic piping, which includes materials like PVC (polyvinyl chloride) and PEX (cross-linked polyethylene), has gained popularity for its lightweight nature, ease of installation, chemical resistance, and lower cost compared to copper. Plastic is frequently used for drain, waste, and vent (DWV) systems as well as for hot and cold water supply lines. The versatility and unique advantages offered by both copper and plastic pipes mean that professional plumbers often rely on both materials depending on the specific requirements of a project. Therefore, recognizing the importance of both in modern plumbing systems is essential.

8. If the take-off for a 14" pipe in a 90° butt weld ell is required, what is the measurement?

- A. 10
- B. 14**
- C. 16
- D. 18

In determining the take-off measurement for a 14-inch pipe connected with a 90° butt weld ell, it's essential to understand what "take-off" represents in this context. The take-off measures the distance from the centerline of the pipe to the point where the pipe will be cut to accommodate the fitting. For a 90° elbow, the take-off is conventionally equivalent to the nominal diameter of the pipe. Therefore, when the pipe's nominal diameter is 14 inches, the take-off measurement will also be 14 inches. This measurement keeps the flow path consistent and allows for proper alignment with other piping components. Utilizing 14 inches ensures that the installed pipe maintains the necessary flow characteristics and minimizes turbulence or restrictions in the system, which is critical for pipefitting applications where fluid dynamics are a primary concern.

9. What is the formula for calculating the take-off of a long radius 90° butt weld elbow?

- A. Pipe diameter multiplied by two
- B. 1.5 times pipe diameter**
- C. Pipe diameter plus two inches
- D. Two times the radius of the pipe

The take-off for a long radius 90° butt weld elbow is calculated using the formula of 1.5 times the pipe diameter. This calculation reflects the unique geometry of the long radius elbow, which allows for a smoother transition for fluid flow and reduces turbulence. The long radius is typically defined as being one and a half times the nominal pipe diameter, thus providing a more gradual change in direction compared to a short radius elbow. This measurement is crucial for proper fitting and installation in piping systems, as it influences not only the space required for the installation but also the overall efficacy of fluid transport through the system. Fitting installations with the correct take-off measurement ensures efficient flow and minimizes the potential for pressure loss and erosion. Keeping this standard in mind helps pipefitters maintain consistency and reliability in the design and installation of piping systems.

10. What does the term W.O.G. signify in relation to piping systems?

- A. Water Oil Gas**
- B. Weight Of Gas
- C. Welded Outer Grade
- D. Wire Out Gauge

The term W.O.G. signifies "Water, Oil, Gas" in relation to piping systems. This designation is commonly used in the context of valves, fittings, and other components that are compatible with these three types of fluids. When products are labeled as W.O.G. rated, it means that they have been tested and certified for safe and reliable use with water, oil, and gas. Understanding this terminology is essential for pipefitters, as it helps ensure that the appropriate materials and components are used for specific applications, minimizing the risk of leaks or failures in the system. Proper knowledge of W.O.G. ratings also informs decisions about the type of piping systems to install based on the particular fluids that will be transported.

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:

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

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