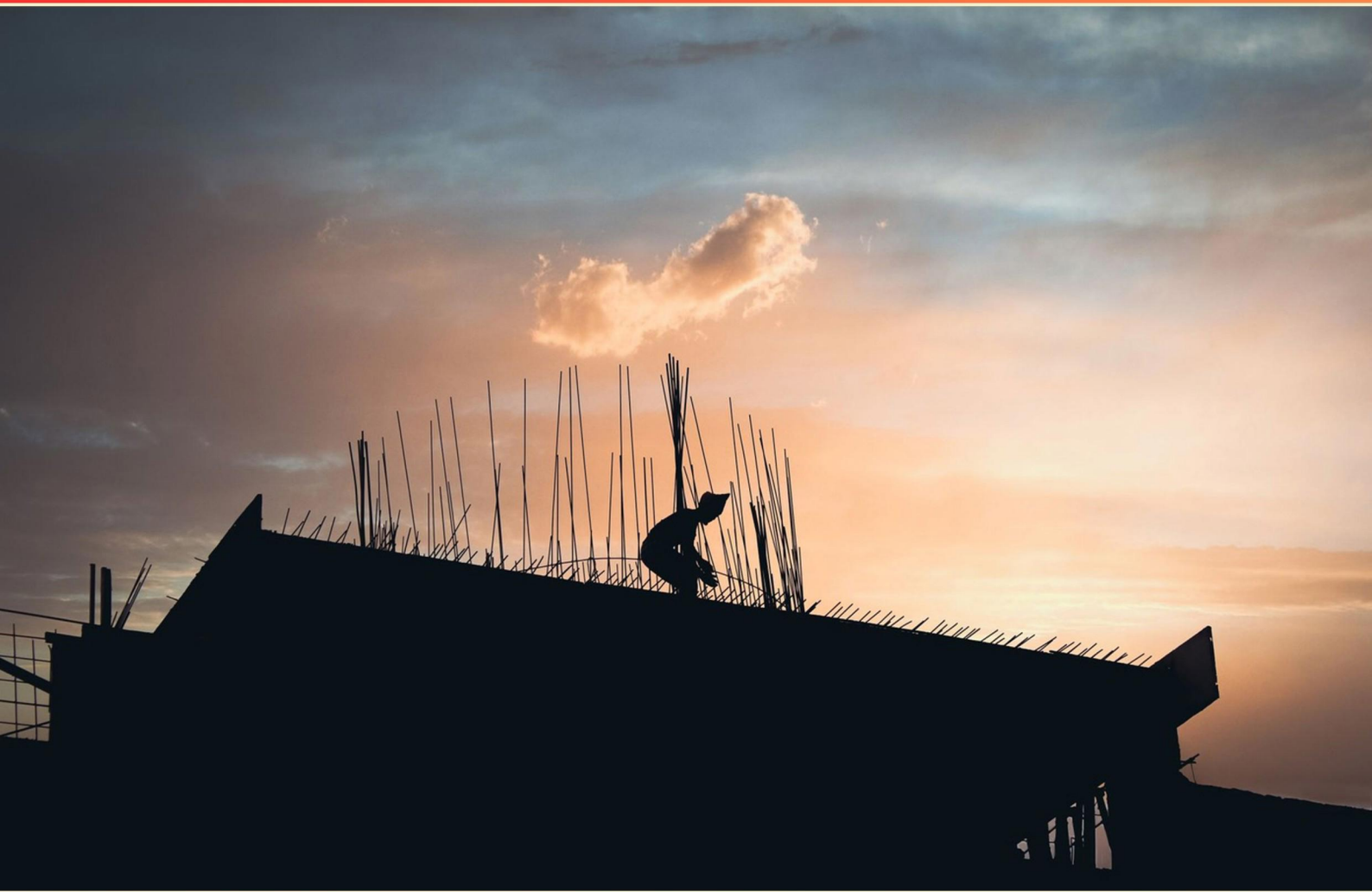


CALIFORNIA ROOFING CONTRACTOR EXAM (C-39 LICENSE) PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE) STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

**VISIT US ONLINE FOR
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. Which of the following best describes the standard slate thickness?**
 - A. 1/8 inch
 - B. 3/16 inch
 - C. 1/4 inch
 - D. 3/8 inch
- 2. Which tool is preferred for driving nails into slate roofing?**
 - A. Slater's hammer
 - B. Mallet
 - C. Pry bar
 - D. Hammer drill
- 3. How do dimensional shingles differ from asphalt shingles?**
 - A. Dimensional shingles are thicker and provide greater wind resistance and a dimensional appearance; asphalt shingles are standard single-layer
 - B. Dimensional shingles are thinner and offer less wind resistance
 - C. Asphalt shingles are thicker and have dimensional appearance
 - D. There is no difference
- 4. With slate roofing, the overlap from one course to the next should cover nail holes of the lower course by at least:**
 - A. 1 inch
 - B. 2 inches
 - C. 3 inches
 - D. 4 inches
- 5. By how much should the offset joints of overlapping slate courses be at minimum?**
 - A. 1
 - B. 2
 - C. 3
 - D. 4

6. Where can asphalt be used for roofing?

- A. Residences
- B. Factories
- C. Bridges
- D. Airports

7. Which of the following is a live load on a roof?

- A. Roofers and other personnel
- B. Structural membranes and other fixed loads
- C. Snow
- D. Wind

8. What is the approximate area of a circular roof with a 12-foot radius?

- A. 452 sq ft
- B. 144 sq ft
- C. 113 sq ft
- D. 376 sq ft

9. Improper flashing installation around roof penetrations can lead to what outcome?

- A. Increased energy efficiency
- B. Enhanced insulation
- C. Increased risk of leaks and water intrusion
- D. Decreased wind uplift

10. If flex-pipe (flex-hose) is used for hot asphalt, where must the end extend?

- A. Above the wall and onto the roof area
- B. Below the wall
- C. On the ground
- D. Inside the attic

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which of the following best describes the standard slate thickness?

- A. 1/8 inch
- B. 3/16 inch**
- C. 1/4 inch
- D. 3/8 inch

Standard slate thickness is chosen to balance strength and weight, ensuring a durable, weather-tight roof while keeping the load on the structure reasonable. For most residential slate installations, 3/16 inch provides enough rigidity to resist cracking during handling and nail-in processes, and it allows for consistent, repeatable courses that shed water effectively. If the slate is thinner, around 1/8 inch, it becomes more prone to cracking and damage under wind or foot traffic. If it's thicker, such as 1/4 inch or 3/8 inch, the additional weight increases dead load and can complicate installation and framing without adding proportional benefits. Therefore, 3/16 inch is the standard thickness because it offers the best practical balance for typical roofs.

2. Which tool is preferred for driving nails into slate roofing?

- A. Slater's hammer**
- B. Mallet
- C. Pry bar
- D. Hammer drill

Slate is a brittle material, so nails must be driven with a tool that gives precise control and delivers a measured impact to avoid cracking the stone. A slater's hammer is specifically designed for slate work, with a compact head and a controlled striking surface that lets you drive nails cleanly through the slate and into the roof structure without shattering or marring the surrounding edge. This specialized tool provides the right balance of precision and force for slate installation, which regular hammers can't match. Using a mallet wouldn't deliver the necessary force and control for nail driving, a pry bar is meant for prying rather than hammering in nails, and a hammer drill is built for drilling into masonry and would damage the slate instead of properly seating nails.

3. How do dimensional shingles differ from asphalt shingles?

- A. Dimensional shingles are thicker and provide greater wind resistance and a dimensional appearance; asphalt shingles are standard single-layer**
- B. Dimensional shingles are thinner and offer less wind resistance
- C. Asphalt shingles are thicker and have dimensional appearance
- D. There is no difference

Dimensional shingles, often called architectural shingles, are built as two laminated layers. This adds thickness and weight, and the layered construction creates a multi-dimensional, shadowed look on the roof rather than a flat, uniform surface. That extra thickness and the way the tabs are bonded improve wind uplift resistance when installed correctly, so they tend to perform better in high winds and offer longer life. In contrast, asphalt shingles referred to as standard are typically single-layer and have a flat, uniform appearance. They're lighter and usually less expensive, with wind resistance generally lower than that of dimensional shingles when installed with the same methods. So the difference lies in thickness and construction leading to a dimensional appearance and better wind resistance for dimensional shingles, while standard asphalt shingles are the lighter, flatter, single-layer option.

4. With slate roofing, the overlap from one course to the next should cover nail holes of the lower course by at least:

- A. 1 inch
- B. 2 inches
- C. 3 inches**
- D. 4 inches

Slate roofing relies on each new course overlapping the nails of the course below, so water and wind don't have a path to the nail heads. The overlap must be large enough to fully cover those nail holes. The minimum overlap is three inches, which ensures the upper slate hides the lower course's nails and directs water over the joint rather than into the fasteners. If the overlap were smaller, water could reach the nail heads and potentially leak or allow wind to pry the slate loose; larger overlaps are acceptable and sometimes required in high-wind areas or with specific slate sizes, but three inches is the standard minimum.

5. By how much should the offset joints of overlapping slate courses be at minimum?

- A. 1
- B. 2
- C. 3**
- D. 4

Staggering joints in slate roofing is essential for weather resistance and strength. When each course overlaps the one below, the vertical joints between slates don't line up from course to course. If the joints align too closely, water can find a straight path through a stack of joints, and the roof loses durability against wind uplift and leaks. By ensuring a minimum offset between joints in successive courses, the joints are blocked by slates in adjacent courses, distributing the load and improving the roof's integrity. The minimum offset for overlapping slate courses is three inches. This amount is enough to prevent a continuous vertical seam while allowing proper overlap and interlock of the slates. Offsets smaller than three inches (like one or two inches) can permit aligned joints and greater leak risk, while four inches is acceptable but exceeds the minimum requirement.

6. Where can asphalt be used for roofing?

- A. Residences**
- B. Factories
- C. Bridges
- D. Airports

Asphalt is a standard choice for roofing because it provides a cost-effective, easy-to-install solution that works well on typical residential roof shapes. Asphalt shingles are lightweight and can be snapped or nailed onto standard roof decks, making installation straightforward for homeowners and crews. They come in a wide range of colors and styles to match architectural preferences, and modern shingles offer good resistance to wind and UV exposure, with warranties that fit most residential projects. This combination of affordability, ease of use, and suitable performance on pitched roofs is why asphalt is most commonly used for homes. Factories and large commercial buildings often use other roofing systems better suited to flat or low-slope roofs, such as built-up roofs or single-ply membranes. Bridges and airports aren't typical contexts for residential-style asphalt roofing materials, as their structures and needs are different from standard house roofs.

7. Which of the following is a live load on a roof?

- A. Roofers and other personnel**
- B. Structural membranes and other fixed loads
- C. Snow
- D. Wind

Live loads are temporary, movable loads that can be removed, such as people on the roof or equipment being used there. Roofers and other personnel on the roof fit that description because their presence is not permanent and can change from one moment to the next. Structural membranes and other fixed loads are dead loads—the permanent weight of the roof itself and its components. Snow and wind come from weather and act as environmental loads; they're not considered live loads in this context even though they affect the roof design, and they're treated separately as snow load and wind load.

8. What is the approximate area of a circular roof with a 12-foot radius?

- A. 452 sq ft**
- B. 144 sq ft
- C. 113 sq ft
- D. 376 sq ft

The area of a circle is found using $A = \pi r^2$. With a radius of 12 feet, r^2 is 144, so $A = \pi \times 144 = 144\pi$ square feet. Using $\pi \approx 3.1416$, $144\pi \approx 452.39$, which rounds to about 452 square feet. That's why the best choice is 452 sq ft. The other options reflect common slips: 144 would be what you get if you forgot to multiply by π , 113 corresponds to $\pi \times 6^2$ (radius 6), and 376 is from a miscalculation involving π and the radius.

9. Improper flashing installation around roof penetrations can lead to what outcome?

- A. Increased energy efficiency
- B. Enhanced insulation
- C. Increased risk of leaks and water intrusion**
- D. Decreased wind uplift

Flashing around roof penetrations is meant to direct water away from joints where the roof meets pipes, vents, chimneys, or other intrusions, creating a weather-tight barrier. When flashing is not installed correctly, gaps, improper overlaps, or damaged pieces allow moisture to seep in at those joints. The result is a higher risk of leaks and water intrusion, which can lead to attic damage, wood rot, soaked insulation, and even mold growth over time. Energy efficiency, insulation performance, and wind uplift are influenced by other parts of the roof system—flashing primarily governs moisture management rather than improving insulation or resisting uplift.

10. If flex-pipe (flex-hose) is used for hot asphalt, where must the end extend?

A. Above the wall and onto the roof area

B. Below the wall

C. On the ground

D. Inside the attic

When using a flex-hose to transfer hot asphalt, you want to direct the heat, fumes, and any drips away from the interior of the building and from occupied spaces. Extending the end above the wall and onto the roof area accomplishes this by placing the outlet at roof level, so vapors and hot material rise away from walls, openings, and attic spaces. This reduces the chance that fumes or asphalt will enter living areas or crawl spaces and helps keep the work area safer for your crew and nearby materials. If the end were kept below the wall, fumes and heat could vent into the eaves, ceilings, or interior spaces, increasing inhalation risk and fire hazard. On the ground, drips and runoff could create slips, spills, or damage to exterior surfaces, and inside the attic would expose the space to heat and fumes, which is unsafe and against typical ventilation practices. Extending the end onto the roof area avoids these issues by maintaining a clear, outside venting path.

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://roofingc39.examzify.com>

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

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