

# Cheap Easy Fast Defensive Driving Practice Exam (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

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- 1. Which statement best describes the defensive scanning pattern?**
  - A. Look well ahead (12-15 seconds), check mirrors every 5-8 seconds, and scan sides and intersections for hidden hazards.**
  - B. Focus only on the vehicle ahead**
  - C. Constantly check the odometer**
  - D. Glance at the radio**
  
- 2. To be sure a lane is clear before moving into it, you should:**
  - A. Look in the rear view mirror**
  - B. All of the above**
  - C. Look in the left side mirror**
  - D. Use your mirrors, turn your head and look in the lane you want to enter**
  
- 3. What happens when tire pressure is too low (under-inflated)?**
  - A. It improves handling.**
  - B. It has no effect on handling.**
  - C. It harms handling and reduces fuel efficiency.**
  - D. It increases fuel efficiency.**
  
- 4. Why is tire tread depth important, and what is the typical minimum safe depth?**
  - A. Tread depth is unimportant for wet traction.**
  - B. Tread depth is important for wet traction and steering; minimum safe depth is typically 2/32 inch (1.6 mm), though many recommend 4/32 in for safety.**
  - C. Minimum safe depth is 6/32 inch.**
  - D. Tread depth only affects noise and ride comfort.**
  
- 5. Which practice is recommended if you feel drowsy while driving?**
  - A. Drive slowly and keep going**
  - B. Pull off the road and get some sleep**
  - C. Turn up the radio and push through**
  - D. Drink energy drinks and continue**

- 6. You must follow special parking rules. Which statement is true?**
- A. All of the above**
  - B. Red: No stopping, standing, or parking**
  - C. Blue: This indicates parking for the disabled**
  - D. Green: You may park for a limited time**
- 7. At BAC levels around 0.01 to 0.03, which statements are true about impairment?**
- A. Important body functions can be affected**
  - B. There is no impairment**
  - C. Only high levels impair function**
  - D. Impairment only occurs in coordination, not judgment**
- 8. How should you respond to a tailgater while maintaining safety?**
- A. Speed up to create space**
  - B. Increase your following distance, tap your brakes gently to warn, and move to another lane if safe to do so.**
  - C. Brake hard**
  - D. Ignore and maintain position**
- 9. If you are in another driver's blind spot, which action is appropriate?**
- A. Move backward**
  - B. Honk to alert them**
  - C. Move forward**
  - D. Move forward or move backward to exit the blind spot**
- 10. Why is it important to report a crash to authorities even if it seems minor?**
- A. For legal and insurance purposes, to document details and receive proper guidance.**
  - B. It is optional and rarely helpful.**
  - C. It is only necessary if someone is injured.**
  - D. It is always required to call the police at every collision regardless of damage.**

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. Which statement best describes the defensive scanning pattern?**

- A. Look well ahead (12-15 seconds), check mirrors every 5-8 seconds, and scan sides and intersections for hidden hazards.**
- B. Focus only on the vehicle ahead**
- C. Constantly check the odometer**
- D. Glance at the radio**

Maintaining safe driving hinges on a proactive scanning pattern that keeps you aware of what's happening ahead, behind, and to the sides. The best pattern combines looking well ahead about 12 to 15 seconds, checking mirrors every 5 to 8 seconds, and scanning sides and intersections for hidden hazards. Looking far ahead gives you time to see changes in traffic, road conditions, or pedestrians and to start adjusting early. Regular mirror checks keep you informed about vehicles behind you and how they might affect your speed or lane position. Scanning side streets and intersections helps you spot cars entering your path, parked vehicles, cyclists, or pedestrians who could create sudden hazards. This approach works because it maintains continuous situational awareness and provides early warning, allowing smoother, safer decisions rather than reacting to surprises. Other habits fall short: focusing only on the vehicle ahead can cause you to miss hazards in surrounding traffic; the odometer doesn't reveal danger in the roadway; glancing at the radio is a distraction that breaks the scan and reduces your overall awareness.

**2. To be sure a lane is clear before moving into it, you should:**

- A. Look in the rear view mirror**
- B. All of the above**
- C. Look in the left side mirror**
- D. Use your mirrors, turn your head and look in the lane you want to enter**

Before moving into another lane, you should confirm the lane is clear by doing a full around-the-vehicle check. Start with your mirrors to scan for vehicles in the adjacent lanes and in your blind spots, then turn your head to shoulder-check and look directly into the lane you want to enter. Only merge when you've verified there's enough space and no vehicle in that lane. This combination is the safest because mirrors help you see most traffic, but blind spots aren't visible in them; a quick head turn confirms the lane is truly open.

**3. What happens when tire pressure is too low (under-inflated)?**

- A. It improves handling.
- B. It has no effect on handling.
- C. It harms handling and reduces fuel efficiency.**
- D. It increases fuel efficiency.

Under-inflated tires deform more as they roll, so the tire doesn't keep a stable, even contact with the road. This makes steering feel slower and less precise, and grip can suffer, especially during cornering or braking. At the same time, the tire works harder due to increased rolling resistance from the extra flex, which wastes energy and lowers fuel efficiency. The extra heat and unequal wear from the deformation also raise the risk of tire damage over time. So, under-inflation harms handling and reduces fuel efficiency.

**4. Why is tire tread depth important, and what is the typical minimum safe depth?**

- A. Tread depth is unimportant for wet traction.
- B. Tread depth is important for wet traction and steering; minimum safe depth is typically 2/32 inch (1.6 mm), though many recommend 4/32 in for safety.**
- C. Minimum safe depth is 6/32 inch.
- D. Tread depth only affects noise and ride comfort.

Tread depth is all about grip in wet conditions and how the tire responds to steering. The grooves and channels in the tread are designed to evacuate water from under the tire, helping the tire maintain contact with the road. When tread wears down, water isn't cleared as effectively, increasing the risk of hydroplaning and making stopping and steering harder in rain. That's why tread depth directly affects wet traction and handling. The typical safe minimum depth you'll see cited is about 2/32 inch (1.6 mm), which aligns with many legal requirements. But for real-world safety, especially in wet weather, many safety guidelines recommend replacing tires around 4/32 inch (4 mm) to preserve better wet traction. Some winter-driving guidelines even call for around 5/32 inch in colder conditions. So the correct idea is that tread depth matters for wet traction and steering, and the commonly cited safe threshold is around 2/32 inch, with a stronger safety recommendation around 4/32 inch. The other statements misstate the role of tread depth or give an implausibly high minimum. To check, you can use a tread depth gauge or simple coin tests (for example, a quarter can help gauge around 4/32 inch; if you can see parts of Washington's head, you're near that lower threshold).

5. Which practice is recommended if you feel drowsy while driving?

- A. Drive slowly and keep going
- B. Pull off the road and get some sleep**
- C. Turn up the radio and push through
- D. Drink energy drinks and continue

Feeling drowsy behind the wheel greatly slows your reactions and can cause you to drift or even fall asleep at the wheel. The safest move is to pull off the road in a safe spot and get some sleep. A short nap of about 15-20 minutes can restore alertness, and if you're still tired, extend the rest or delay your trip until you're fully awake. Quick fixes won't fix fatigue: turning up the radio or pushing through doesn't remove the underlying sleepiness, and energy drinks may mask fatigue for a while but don't cure it and can lead to a crash later. The priority is to rest until you're alert before continuing.

6. You must follow special parking rules. Which statement is true?

- A. All of the above**
- B. Red: No stopping, standing, or parking
- C. Blue: This indicates parking for the disabled
- D. Green: You may park for a limited time

Understanding curb color meanings helps you follow safety and accessibility rules. Red curbs indicate no stopping, standing, or parking at any time, typically marking fire lanes or other restricted zones. Blue curbs designate parking spaces for people with a disabled permit or plate. Green curbs show you may park for a limited time, with the exact duration posted nearby. Since each of these statements matches standard curb rules, all of them are true, so the choice that includes all of them is correct. Always check local signs, as rules can vary by city.

7. At BAC levels around 0.01 to 0.03, which statements are true about impairment?

- A. Important body functions can be affected**
- B. There is no impairment
- C. Only high levels impair function
- D. Impairment only occurs in coordination, not judgment

At this low level of BAC, the brain's processing slows and multiple functions can be affected, not just one isolated skill. You may notice slower reaction times, reduced attention, poorer coordination, and impaired judgment. So it's true that important body functions can be affected even at 0.01 to 0.03. It isn't accurate to say there's no impairment at these levels, nor to claim impairment only appears at higher levels, or that impairment is limited to coordination while judgment stays fine.

**8. How should you respond to a tailgater while maintaining safety?**

**A. Speed up to create space**

**B. Increase your following distance, tap your brakes gently to warn, and move to another lane if safe to do so.**

**C. Brake hard**

**D. Ignore and maintain position**

When someone is following too closely, the safest approach is to reduce risk by creating space and signaling a calm, controlled response. Increase your following distance so you have more time to react if traffic slows or stops ahead. Lightly tapping the brakes serves as a warning to the driver behind you without appearing aggressive, helping them anticipate your slower speed. If it's safe to do so, move to another lane to let the tailgater pass and relieve the pressure on your vehicle. This combination lowers the chance of a rear-end collision and keeps you in control. Speeding up to create space can prompt the tailgater to speed up or try unsafe passes, braking hard risks a crash with the car behind you, and ignoring the tailgater does nothing to reduce danger.

**9. If you are in another driver's blind spot, which action is appropriate?**

**A. Move backward**

**B. Honk to alert them**

**C. Move forward**

**D. Move forward or move backward to exit the blind spot**

Being in another driver's blind spot means they can't see you in their mirrors, so the safest move is to leave that area as quickly and smoothly as possible. The best approach is to adjust your speed and position to exit the blind spot: either move forward to pass them so you're in front of them, or move backward to fall behind them. This keeps you visible and reduces the chance of a surprise lane change by the other driver. Hearing a horn or relying on it to signal isn't a reliable or safe cue, and moving forward or backward alone isn't guaranteed to get you out of the blind spot quickly enough. The key is to change your position so you're no longer riding in their blind spot, then resume normal driving once you're safely clear.

**10. Why is it important to report a crash to authorities even if it seems minor?**

**A. For legal and insurance purposes, to document details and receive proper guidance.**

**B. It is optional and rarely helpful.**

**C. It is only necessary if someone is injured.**

**D. It is always required to call the police at every collision regardless of damage.**

Reporting a crash to authorities matters because you create a documented record of what happened, which protects you legally and financially. A police or official report captures when and where it occurred, the people involved, and the details you observed, giving your insurer a solid basis for processing a claim and helping determine liability. Even if damage seems minor, injuries can reveal themselves later, and disputes about fault can arise without a formal record. In many places, there are legal requirements to report crashes that involve property damage or potential injuries, so relying on it being optional isn't safe. It's not merely about injuries or about calling police in every case; having a documented report helps you navigate claims, compliance, and any future questions about what happened.

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## 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://cheapeasyfastdefdriving.examzify.com>**

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

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