

COMPANY LEVEL ARMY BOARD WEAPONS 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. What should you do if you suspect a live round is chambered and you cannot confirm safely?**
 - A. Treat as loaded; clear the weapon using established procedures and seek range safety guidance.
 - B. Ignore it and continue training.
 - C. Disassemble the weapon entirely on the range.
 - D. Immediately fire a safe rounds to test.
- 2. Which cooling method describes the M240B?**
 - A. Liquid-cooled.
 - B. Air-cooled.
 - C. Water-cooled.
 - D. Forced-air cooled.
- 3. Describe the M249.**
 - A. The M249 machine gun is a recoil-operated, water-cooled, belt-fed, semi-automatic weapon.
 - B. The M249 machine gun is a gas-operated, air-cooled, belt or magazine-fed, automatic weapon that fires from the open-bolt position.
 - C. The M249 is a gas-operated, air-cooled, belt-fed, closed-bolt weapon.
 - D. The M249 is an electrically-fired, air-cooled, belt-fed, automatic weapon.
- 4. Compare M193 and M855 5.56mm ammunition in terms of bullet weight and general purpose.**
 - A. M193 is 55-grain full-metal-jacket; M855 is 62-grain with a penetrator designed for longer-range performance.
 - B. M193 is 62-grain with a penetrator; M855 is 55-grain FMJ.
 - C. Both are 60-grain with identical performance.
 - D. M193 is an armor-piercing round; M855 is a standard FMJ.
- 5. In the M240B function check, which action is performed first?**
 - A. Places the safety on 'F'.
 - B. Pulls the cocking handle to the rear, locking the bolt to the rear.
 - C. Returns the cocking handle to the forward position.
 - D. Places the safety on 'S' and closes the cover.

6. What is the sustained rate of fire for the M4 Rifle?

- A. 12-15 rounds per minute
- B. 45 rounds per minute
- C. 90 rounds per minute
- D. 120 rounds per minute

7. What is the definition of Maximum Effective Range?

- A. The maximum distance at which a bullet can travel.
- B. The maximum distance with wind assistance.
- C. The greatest distance at which a soldier may be expected to deliver a target hit.
- D. The maximum range of the ammunition.

8. During immediate action, which action ensures bolt closure?

- A. Slap the magazine
- B. Pulls the charging handle to the rear
- C. Observe for ejection
- D. Tap the forward assist assembly to ensure bolt closure

9. How does environmental dust and sand affect small arms in the field and what mitigation steps can be taken?

- A. Increases wear and jams; mitigate with protective covers, frequent cleaning, and appropriate lubrication.
- B. Improves reliability.
- C. Has no effect.
- D. Reduces weight.

10. What is the rapid rate of fire for the M240B?

- A. 650 to 950 rpm with 1 to 2 second bursts.
- B. 100 rounds per minute fired in 6 to 9 round bursts and 4 to 5 seconds between bursts; barrel change every 10 minutes.
- C. 200 rounds per minute fired in 10 to 13 round bursts and 2 to 3 seconds between bursts; barrel change every 2 minutes.
- D. 400 rpm with 4 to 6 round bursts.

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What should you do if you suspect a live round is chambered and you cannot confirm safely?

- A. Treat as loaded; clear the weapon using established procedures and seek range safety guidance.**
- B. Ignore it and continue training.
- C. Disassemble the weapon entirely on the range.
- D. Immediately fire a safe rounds to test.

When you suspect a live round is chambered and you cannot confirm safety, the correct approach is to treat the weapon as loaded and clear it using established procedures, while seeking range safety guidance. This follows the fundamental safety principle that a firearm must be treated as if loaded at all times. By pausing, maintaining the muzzle in a safe direction, and performing the prescribed clearing steps under supervision (often with a Range Safety Officer present), you remove any live round from the chamber and prevent an accidental discharge. This keeps everyone on the range safe and ensures the weapon is handled only under controlled conditions. Ignoring the situation can lead to an unintentional discharge. Disassembling on the range without proper procedures and oversight introduces new hazards and violates range safety rules. Firing a round to test safety is not an allowed or safe method; it creates a real danger to nearby personnel and equipment and defeats the purpose of careful, controlled clearing.

2. Which cooling method describes the M240B?

- A. Liquid-cooled.
- B. Air-cooled.**
- C. Water-cooled.
- D. Forced-air cooled.

Cooling method for automatic weapons relies on how heat from sustained firing is removed. The M240B is designed as an air-cooled, gas-operated machine gun, meaning its barrel dissipates heat primarily through ambient air that flows around and over the barrel as it's exposed. There's no liquid cooling jacket, radiator, or water-cooling system on the standard configuration. When the barrel gets hot, crews swap in a fresh barrel to keep performance up, rather than relying on a liquid cooling cycle. Some designs use forced-air with a fan, but the M240B does not rely on an active cooling device in its normal setup. Because of that, air cooling best describes this weapon.

3. Describe the M249.

- A. The M249 machine gun is a recoil-operated, water-cooled, belt-fed, semi-automatic weapon.
- B. The M249 machine gun is a gas-operated, air-cooled, belt or magazine-fed, automatic weapon that fires from the open-bolt position.**
- C. The M249 is a gas-operated, air-cooled, belt-fed, closed-bolt weapon.
- D. The M249 is an electrically-fired, air-cooled, belt-fed, automatic weapon.

The M249 is a gas-operated, air-cooled, belt-fed automatic weapon that fires from the open-bolt position and can be fed by belts or magazines. This combination—gas operation using a piston to cycle the action, air cooling for sustained fire, and open-bolt firing—gives it reliable cycling under continuous use and makes it suitable for squad-level suppressive fire. Open-bolt operation helps prevent cook-off and keeps the chamber cooler during long bursts, which is why many light machine guns use this configuration. It is not recoil-operated, not water-cooled, not closed-bolt, and not electrically fired, which distinguishes it from the other descriptions.

4. Compare M193 and M855 5.56mm ammunition in terms of bullet weight and general purpose.

A. M193 is 55-grain full-metal-jacket; M855 is 62-grain with a penetrator designed for longer-range performance.

B. M193 is 62-grain with a penetrator; M855 is 55-grain FMJ.

C. Both are 60-grain with identical performance.

D. M193 is an armor-piercing round; M855 is a standard FMJ.

The main idea is how bullet weight and design drive general purpose and long-range capability. M193 uses a 55-grain full-metal-jacket projectile, which is a lighter, high-velocity standard ball round optimized for flat trajectory and reliable performance at typical engagement distances. M855 uses a heavier 62-grain bullet that includes a steel penetrator in the tip, giving better penetration and improved performance at longer ranges. The green-tip designation of M855 signals this penetrator design aimed at increased barrier penetration and extended range, not a lighter, simpler round. So, the correct statement matches the real differences: M193 is 55-grain FMJ, while M855 is 62-grain with a penetrator designed for longer-range/greater penetration. The other options mix up weights or characterize the rounds incorrectly, and none accurately reflect the true distinction.

5. In the M240B function check, which action is performed first?

A. Places the safety on 'F'.

B. Pulls the cocking handle to the rear, locking the bolt to the rear.

C. Returns the cocking handle to the forward position.

D. Places the safety on 'S' and closes the cover.

Starting the function check from a safe, known state is essential. Placing the safety to safe and closing the cover establishes that the weapon cannot discharge and that the receiver/feeding area is in a secured, neutral condition. This safe baseline allows you to inspect and cycle the action without risk, ensuring the bolt and feed mechanism can be examined properly as you proceed with the rest of the check. After this initial safe setup, you would then proceed to cock the handle to the rear to lock the bolt, return the handle forward to reset, and finally move the safety as appropriate for the next steps.

6. What is the sustained rate of fire for the M4 Rifle?

A. 12-15 rounds per minute

B. 45 rounds per minute

C. 90 rounds per minute

D. 120 rounds per minute

The sustained rate of fire is the pace you can keep firing the rifle for an extended period without overheating the barrel or sacrificing reliability. For the M4, that pace is about 12–15 rounds per minute. This rate accounts for heat buildup, wear on the barrel and gas system, and practical ammunition management, so you can maintain controllable fire and avoid problems like cook-off. In practice, soldiers fire short bursts (a few rounds) with deliberate pauses to cool and regroup, rather than keeping the trigger down continuously. If you tried to fire much faster for a sustained period, heat would accumulate quickly, dispersion would worsen, and reliability could drop.

7. What is the definition of Maximum Effective Range?

- A. The maximum distance at which a bullet can travel.
- B. The maximum distance with wind assistance.
- C. The greatest distance at which a soldier may be expected to deliver a target hit.**
- D. The maximum range of the ammunition.

Maximum Effective Range is the furthest distance at which a weapon can be expected to reliably deliver a hit on a target by a trained shooter under standard conditions. It reflects the greatest distance a soldier may be expected to deliver a target hit, taking into account shooter skill, the weapon and sighting system, ammunition, and environmental factors. This differs from how far the bullet can physically travel; bullets can go farther, but hitting a target with accuracy drops off with distance. It also isn't the maximum range of the ammunition, which describes projectile travel independent of aiming. So the best definition is the farthest distance at which a trained shooter can be expected to place a hit on the target.

8. During immediate action, which action ensures bolt closure?

- A. Slap the magazine
- B. Pulls the charging handle to the rear
- C. Observe for ejection
- D. Tap the forward assist assembly to ensure bolt closure**

When the bolt hasn't fully closed, you use the forward assist to push the bolt carrier forward and lock the bolt. This is the designed, quickest way to complete bolt closure in an AR-pattern rifle during immediate action. Tapping the forward assist ensures the action finishes cycling even if the bolt didn't fully advance on its own. Slapping the magazine addresses magazine seating, not bolt closure. Pulling the charging handle to the rear can help clear a malfunction or reset the action, but it doesn't reliably guarantee the bolt is fully forward and locked in this scenario. Observing for ejection is a diagnostic check after cycling, not the step that fixes bolt closure.

9. How does environmental dust and sand affect small arms in the field and what mitigation steps can be taken?

- A. Increases wear and jams; mitigate with protective covers, frequent cleaning, and appropriate lubrication.**
- B. Improves reliability.
- C. Has no effect.
- D. Reduces weight.

Dust and sand in the field act as abrasives that accelerate wear and cause jams in small arms. When grit particles get into the action, they grind against moving surfaces—the bolt carrier, lugs, rails, and the chamber area—wearing them faster and interfering with smooth cycling. Grit can also foul the feed ramps and gas system, leading to misfeeds or failure to extract, which shows up as jams and unreliable operation. Mitigation centers on keeping grit out and removing it when it does get in. Protective covers and keeping the dust cover closed seal the action against dust and sand. Regular, thorough cleaning removes abrasive particles that have entered the weapon, restoring clearances and preventing buildup that would otherwise cause malfunctions. Proper lubrication is essential too: use the recommended lubricant to reduce friction on worn surfaces and help wash away tiny particles, but avoid over-lubrication which can attract more dust and bind grit. In practice, combine these steps with routine inspection and maintenance in dusty environments to maintain reliability.

10. What is the rapid rate of fire for the M240B?

- A. 650 to 950 rpm with 1 to 2 second bursts.
- B. 100 rounds per minute fired in 6 to 9 round bursts and 4 to 5 seconds between bursts; barrel change every 10 minutes.**
- C. 200 rounds per minute fired in 10 to 13 round bursts and 2 to 3 seconds between bursts; barrel change every 2 minutes.
- D. 400 rpm with 4 to 6 round bursts.

Rapid rate of fire for the M240B is a middle-ground setting that gives more firepower than sustained while avoiding the overheating and control problems of full cyclic fire. It's achieved by firing short bursts of 6 to 9 rounds and then pausing about 4 to 5 seconds before the next burst. Those brief pauses let heat build-up stay manageable and help maintain accuracy and control. At this tempo, the barrel life is preserved well enough to justify changing the barrel roughly every 10 minutes. This combination—short bursts, brief inter-burst pauses, and a 10-minute barrel-change interval—fits the practical, on-the-ground use of the weapon and corresponds to an overall rate around 100 rounds per minute. Other options describe rates that either approach the highest cyclic speed or fall into slower sustained-fire patterns, or they suggest barrel-change intervals that aren't consistent with how the rapid rate is managed in the field. The burst size, pause duration, and 10-minute barrel-change guideline shown here best reflect the rapid-fire practice for the M240B.

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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