

CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISOR LICENSE 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. In a building, what is the required live load for balconies?**
 - A. 50 lbs. per square foot
 - B. 75 lbs. per square foot
 - C. 100 lbs. per square foot
 - D. 150 lbs. per square foot
- 2. What is the maximum time extension allowed for a building permit application?**
 - A. 180 days
 - B. 30 days
 - C. 60 days
 - D. 90 days
- 3. How often should a construction site be inspected for hazards?**
 - A. After every storm
 - B. At least once a day
 - C. Once a week
 - D. Once a month
- 4. In the absence of manufacturer's instructions, how long may a straight run of a four-inch diameter dryer vent hose be?**
 - A. 15'
 - B. 20'
 - C. 25'
 - D. 35'
- 5. A registered design professional is required to design and stamp a retaining wall when the wall is how many feet or higher?**
 - A. 6
 - B. 8
 - C. 10
 - D. 12

- 6. What is the presumptive load-bearing pressure of sandy gravel, in pounds per square foot?**
- A. 1,000
 - B. 2,000
 - C. 3,000
 - D. 4,000
- 7. What is the minimum width for an accessible path in a commercial building?**
- A. 32 inches
 - B. 36 inches
 - C. 42 inches
 - D. 48 inches
- 8. Which of the following materials is considered a dead load?**
- A. Permanent fixtures
 - B. People and furniture
 - C. Easily movable items
 - D. Live loads from snow
- 9. What is use group R - 3?**
- A. A boarding house with transient occupancy for 16 or fewer boarders
 - B. A boarding house with nontransient occupancy for 18 or fewer boarders
 - C. Three family multiple dwelling units with less than five boarders
 - D. A detached two-family dwelling unit, three stories in height
- 10. What is a window stool?**
- A. A. the clearance between the window and the opening
 - B. B. a flat molding located over the window sill between jams which contacts the bottom rail of the lower sash
 - C. C. the header on which the window sits
 - D. D. the flashing at the base of the window

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. In a building, what is the required live load for balconies?

- A. 50 lbs. per square foot
- B. 75 lbs. per square foot**
- C. 100 lbs. per square foot
- D. 150 lbs. per square foot

Balconies are typically designed to accommodate additional loads that might not be present in other areas of a building. The commonly accepted live load requirement for balconies is set at 60 pounds per square foot in many building codes, but to ensure safety and structural integrity, some jurisdictions adopt a higher standard. The value of 75 pounds per square foot reflects considerations for both static weights, such as furniture, and dynamic loads, such as people standing or moving on the balcony. This figure is often used in residential and commercial contexts to ensure that the structure can support multiple occupants and their activities without risk of failure. The other choices, although higher or lower than the accepted standard, do not reflect the typical live load requirement specifically designated for balconies in building codes. This ensures that balconies not only function safely during regular use but also account for occasional overloads during gatherings or events. Understanding the live load requirements for balconies is essential for a construction supervisor, as it directly relates to safety, structural integrity, and compliance with local building codes.

2. What is the maximum time extension allowed for a building permit application?

- A. 180 days
- B. 30 days
- C. 60 days
- D. 90 days**

A building permit application is typically subject to specific timelines established by local building codes or regulations. The maximum time extension allowed for a building permit application serves to provide applicants additional time to meet any necessary requirements or complete their submissions without penalty. In this context, many jurisdictions allow for a 90-day extension for building permit applications. This extension enables applicants to address issues such as required documentation, plan revisions, or waiting for approvals from other agencies. It helps ensure that applicants have a fair opportunity to comply with permitting requirements while still maintaining the overall integrity and efficiency of the permitting process. The other options reflect shorter extension periods, which may not be adequate for more complex projects that require additional time for compliance. Therefore, a 90-day maximum extension is commonly viewed as a balanced approach, facilitating applicant needs while also promoting timely project progression.

3. How often should a construction site be inspected for hazards?

- A. After every storm
- B. At least once a day**
- C. Once a week
- D. Once a month

A construction site should be inspected for hazards at least once a day to ensure a safe working environment. Daily inspections allow for the identification and mitigation of potential hazards that could lead to accidents or injuries on site. The dynamic nature of construction work means that conditions can change rapidly due to ongoing work activities, weather conditions, and the movement of personnel and equipment. Daily inspections help supervisors ensure that safety protocols are being followed, that equipment is in good condition, and that any new or existing hazards are readily addressed. This proactive approach is essential in preventing incidents before they occur, thereby promoting a culture of safety among all workers on the site. Regular inspections not only help maintain compliance with safety regulations but also foster a continuous awareness of safety among all personnel involved in the project. Strategies for effective daily inspections might include routine checklists, assigning specific personnel to oversee safety measures, and implementing feedback loops to address previously identified issues.

4. In the absence of manufacturer's instructions, how long may a straight run of a four-inch diameter dryer vent hose be?

- A. 15'
- B. 20'
- C. 25'
- D. 35'**

The standard length for a straight run of a four-inch diameter dryer vent hose, in the absence of manufacturer's instructions, is 35 feet. This guideline is established to ensure optimal airflow and efficiency for the dryer. Allowing for such a length helps maintain a proper balance in air movement and reduces the risk of lint build-up, which can lead to fire hazards. In practice, longer duct runs can lead to increased resistance to airflow, which diminishes the dryer's performance. However, the code typically allows up to 35 feet to accommodate standard installation scenarios while still promoting safety and efficiency. After this length, every additional 90-degree bend or 45-degree bend in the duct would reduce the allowable length of the vent run to maintain effective performance.

5. A registered design professional is required to design and stamp a retaining wall when the wall is how many feet or higher?

- A. 6
- B. 8
- C. 10**
- D. 12

In construction, retaining walls are critical structures that hold back soil and prevent erosion. The requirement for a registered design professional to design and stamp a retaining wall typically comes into play when the wall reaches a certain height. This requirement is established to ensure that the wall is designed with the appropriate engineering principles to handle the lateral earth pressures and other loads it will experience. When the height of the retaining wall is specified as 10 feet or higher, it indicates a significant amount of lateral pressure from the retained soil. At this height, the complexity of the design increases due to factors such as soil types, drainage, and slope stability. Therefore, the involvement of a registered design professional is essential to guarantee that the wall is structurally sound and complies with safety regulations and local building codes. This stipulation helps ensure good construction practices and protects the safety of both the individuals involved in the project and the general public. A wall designed without professional oversight could lead to inadequate performance and potential failure, which could pose safety risks.

6. What is the presumptive load-bearing pressure of sandy gravel, in pounds per square foot?

- A. 1,000
- B. 2,000
- C. 3,000**
- D. 4,000

The presumptive load-bearing pressure of sandy gravel is recognized as being around 3,000 pounds per square foot. This value is critical in the field of construction and structural engineering, as it provides a guideline for estimating the load that the soil can support before undergoing significant deformation or failure. Sandy gravel is generally considered a strong and stable material, making it suitable for various types of construction projects. Understanding the correct bearing pressure is essential for ensuring the safety and integrity of structures, as it helps in determining the appropriate foundation designs and depths needed for various building loads. If the soil is assessed to have a lower load-bearing capacity than what is required for the proposed structure, measures such as soil compaction, the use of deeper footings, or other ground improvement techniques may need to be implemented.

7. What is the minimum width for an accessible path in a commercial building?

- A. 32 inches
- B. 36 inches**
- C. 42 inches
- D. 48 inches

The minimum width for an accessible path in a commercial building is 36 inches. This standard is established by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which aims to ensure that public spaces are accessible to individuals with disabilities. A 36-inch width allows for the safe and comfortable passage of wheelchair users and other individuals requiring additional space to navigate. This measurement is essential to promote inclusivity and safety within commercial environments. Wider paths can certainly provide better accessibility, but the baseline requirement is set at 36 inches to accommodate a variety of mobility devices and ensure compliance with ADA regulations. In some situations where two wheelchairs may need to pass each other, additional width may be recommended, but 36 inches is the minimum standard that must be adhered to in creating accessible pathways.

8. Which of the following materials is considered a dead load?

- A. Permanent fixtures**
- B. People and furniture
- C. Easily movable items
- D. Live loads from snow

A dead load refers to the static weight of a structure and its permanent components that are constant over time. This includes materials and fixtures that are not expected to change or move, such as beams, walls, roofs, and permanent fixtures. These elements contribute to the overall load that a structure must support. Permanent fixtures are fixed in place and do not vary, making them a key component in calculations involving dead loads. In contrast, the other options involve elements that can change over time. People and furniture, for instance, are classified as live loads because their presence is variable and can fluctuate. Similarly, easily movable items do not contribute to dead loads since their presence can change depending on their use. Live loads from snow also vary based on conditions, making them a transient factor rather than a permanent one. Understanding the distinction between dead loads and live loads is critical for construction supervisors when designing structures and ensuring safety and stability according to building codes.

9. What is use group R - 3?

- A. A boarding house with transient occupancy for 16 or fewer boarders
- B. A boarding house with nontransient occupancy for 18 or fewer boarders
- C. Three family multiple dwelling units with less than five boarders
- D. A detached two-family dwelling unit, three stories in height**

Use Group R-3 is classified to include structures that are intended for residential use but without the complexities of larger residential buildings. Under this classification, a detached two-family dwelling unit, which can be three stories in height, is included. This group recognizes the nature of smaller residential settings that provide living accommodations for families or unrelated individuals. The focus of Use Group R-3 is on residential buildings that are typically single-family homes or small multi-family dwellings. This group caters to buildings that are often less complex in terms of exits, safety requirements, and other construction standards when compared to larger residential or commercial structures. Understanding that these smaller buildings have fewer boarders and occupants ensures that the regulations and safety standards applied are appropriate for their size and use. In contrast, the other options describe various types of boarding houses or multi-family units that do not align with the specific criteria for R-3 use. For instance, options referring to transient or nontransient boarding houses include more residents and present different occupancy characteristics that categorize them outside of Use Group R-3.

10. What is a window stool?

- A. A. the clearance between the window and the opening
- B. B. a flat molding located over the window sill between jams which contacts the bottom rail of the lower sash**
- C. C. the header on which the window sits
- D. D. the flashing at the base of the window

A window stool is specifically defined as a flat molding that is located over the window sill and spans between the window jams, making direct contact with the bottom rail of the lower sash. This component serves both a functional and aesthetic purpose in window installation. Functionally, the window stool helps direct water away from the window, preventing moisture from entering the building. It also provides a surface for the window to rest upon, ensuring that the window operates smoothly. Aesthetically, a well-designed window stool can enhance the overall look of the window and the surrounding architecture. The other options refer to different aspects of window construction or installation. The clearance between the window and the opening involves the dimensions and fitting but does not describe a specific component. The header is a structural element above the window, while flashing pertains to materials used to prevent water penetration, both of which do not define the window stool itself.

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://constructionsupervisor.examzify.com>

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

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