# Dispensing LP-Gas Safely in Texas Practice Test (Sample)

## Study Guide


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# Questions

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**1. What happens to liquid propane when heat is added to it?**

**A. It evaporates**

**B. It contracts**

**C. It expands**

**D. It solidifies**

**2. What is a 'bulk plant' in relation to LP-Gas?**

**A. A location for residential propane tank exchanges**

**B. A facility for the storage and distribution of LP-Gas**

**C. A type of retail gas station**

**D. A site for LP-Gas manufacturing**

**3. When an operator is not in attendance, what should be done to the dispenser?**

**A. Left operational**

**B. Shut down and secured**

**C. Locked open**

**D. Disconnected entirely**

**4. What is the flash point of LP-Gas?**

**A. Approximately -156°F (-104.4°C) for propane**

**B. Approximately 0°F (-18°C)**

**C. Approximately 50°F (10°C)**

**D. Approximately -200°F (-129°C)**

**5. How far must combustible materials be separated from LP-gas containers?**

**A. 5 feet**

**B. 10 feet**

**C. 15 feet**

**D. 20 feet**

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**6. Why is it important to monitor the gauge during the filling process?**

**A. To ensure the device is functioning**

**B. To measure the liquid level accurately**

**C. To avoid overfilling**

**D. To ensure safety standards are met**

**7. What type of clothing is recommended to help reduce the chance of producing a static spark?**

**A. Polyester blend**

**B. Cotton blend**

**C. Nylon**

**D. Wool**

**8. In a customer's vehicle, how should cylinders be positioned concerning the pressure relief valve?**

**A. It should be facing down**

**B. It should be in communication with the vapor space**

**C. It should be sealed tightly**

**D. It should be angled at 90 degrees**

**9. What action should be taken if a propane cylinder is found to be leaking?**

**A. Immediately use water to cool it**

**B. Close the service valve**

**C. Move it indoors**

**D. Inform the local fire department**

**10. What is needed for propane to burn effectively?**

**A. Flame thrower**

**B. Irritant gas**

**C. Ignition source**

**D. High pressure**

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# Answers

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

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# Explanations

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## 1. What happens to liquid propane when heat is added to it?

**A. It evaporates**

**B. It contracts**

**C. It expands**

**D. It solidifies**

**When heat is added to liquid propane, it expands. This occurs because the added heat energy increases the kinetic energy of the propane molecules, causing them to move more rapidly. As the molecules gain energy, they begin to push apart from each other, which results in a physical expansion of the liquid. This principle of expansion in response to heat is fundamental in understanding the behavior of gases and liquids. In the case of propane, as it heats, it can also start to transition from a liquid state to a gaseous state, but the key focus here is on the immediate result of expansion due to the increase in temperature. Understanding this expansion is crucial in handling propane safely, as it can have significant implications for containment and pressure management in propane systems.**

## 2. What is a 'bulk plant' in relation to LP-Gas?

**A. A location for residential propane tank exchanges**

**B. A facility for the storage and distribution of LP-Gas**

**C. A type of retail gas station**

**D. A site for LP-Gas manufacturing**

**A bulk plant refers specifically to a facility designed for the storage and distribution of LP-Gas. These plants play a critical role in the supply chain of propane and other liquefied petroleum gases, as they serve as central locations where large quantities of LP-Gas are stored before being distributed to smaller facilities or directly to users. At a bulk plant, LP-Gas is typically stored in large tanks and can be transferred into transport vehicles or smaller containers for delivery to customers, which may include residential, commercial, and industrial users. The function of a bulk plant is integral to ensuring an efficient supply of LP-Gas, maintaining appropriate safety standards, and facilitating the management of inventory. Understanding the specific role of a bulk plant helps clarify its importance in the broader context of the LP-Gas distribution and usage system. Other choices do not align with this definition as they refer to different aspects of LP-Gas handling and sales.**

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## 3. When an operator is not in attendance, what should be done to the dispenser?

**A. Left operational**

**B. Shut down and secured**

**C. Locked open**

**D. Disconnected entirely**

**When an operator is not in attendance, the dispenser should be shut down and secured to ensure safety. This practice minimizes the risk of accidents, leaks, and unauthorized use. By shutting down the dispenser, you effectively prevent any potential hazards from occurring while there is no oversight. Securing the dispenser also helps protect against tampering or misuse in the operator's absence, which is crucial in managing flammable substances like LP-gas. Leaving the dispenser operational or locked open poses significant safety risks, as it could allow for unintended dispensing or potential spills. Disconnecting the dispenser entirely might not be practical or necessary in every situation, especially if it needs to remain ready for immediate use when the operator returns. Hence, the best approach when the operator is away is to ensure the equipment is safely secured.**

## 4. What is the flash point of LP-Gas?

**A. Approximately -156°F (-104.4°C) for propane**

**B. Approximately 0°F (-18°C)**

**C. Approximately 50°F (10°C)**

**D. Approximately -200°F (-129°C)**

**The flash point of LP-gas, specifically propane, is approximately -156°F (-104.4°C). The flash point is the lowest temperature at which vapor from a volatile substance can ignite when exposed to an open flame or spark. Propane has a very low flash point, which means it can easily produce flammable vapors at relatively low temperatures, making it important to handle with care, especially during storage and dispensing. Understanding the properties of LP-gas is crucial for ensuring safety during its use. The other options reflect various temperatures, but only the first option aligns with the well-documented flash point of propane. For instance, the option citing a flash point of 0°F (-18°C) significantly underestimates the volatile nature of propane, while the other choices provide even higher temperatures, which are inconsistent with propane's characteristics. Knowing the correct flash point helps in assessing the risks associated with LP-gas and implementing appropriate safety measures during handling and storage.**

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## 5. How far must combustible materials be separated from LP-gas containers?

**A. 5 feet**

**B. 10 feet**

**C. 15 feet**

**D. 20 feet**

**Combustible materials must be separated from LP-gas containers by a distance of at least 10 feet to ensure safety during the handling and storage of propane. This requirement is in place to reduce the risk of fire and explosion, as LP-gas is flammable and can pose significant hazards if ignited. Maintaining this distance creates a buffer zone that helps prevent potential ignition sources from coming into contact with the gas, thus enhancing safety for both personnel and property. Understanding this regulation is crucial for anyone involved in the dispensing or storage of LP-gas to mitigate risks effectively.**

## 6. Why is it important to monitor the gauge during the filling process?

**A. To ensure the device is functioning**

**B. To measure the liquid level accurately**

**C. To avoid overfilling**

**D. To ensure safety standards are met**

**Monitoring the gauge during the filling process is essential primarily to avoid overfilling. LP-gas tanks have specific capacities, and filling them beyond their limits can lead to dangerous situations. Overfilled tanks can cause pressure to build up, which may lead to leaks, potential explosions, or environmental hazards when the excess gas escapes. By observing the gauge closely, the person dispensing the gas can ensure they stop filling as soon as the correct level is reached, maintaining safety and compliance with regulations. Other options may seem relevant, but they do not hold the same level of significance in the context of the filling process. While ensuring the device is functioning, measuring the liquid level accurately, and maintaining safety standards are all important in the overall handling of LP-gas, the primary immediate concern during filling is to prevent overfilling, which directly impacts safety and operational integrity.**

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## 7. What type of clothing is recommended to help reduce the chance of producing a static spark?

**A. Polyester blend**

**B. Cotton blend**

**C. Nylon**

**D. Wool**

**Wearing a cotton blend is recommended to help reduce the chance of producing a static spark when working with LP-gas because cotton is a natural fiber that does not tend to generate static electricity when it rubs against other materials or when a person moves. Cotton is also breathable and comfortable, which is beneficial in work environments. In contrast, materials like polyester or nylon can create static electricity due to their synthetic nature and are more likely to generate sparks in certain conditions, particularly when they move against other surfaces. Wool, while it is a natural fiber and generally less prone to static than synthetic fabrics, can still generate static under certain circumstances, especially in dry environments. Therefore, cotton or cotton blends remain the safest and most advisable choice for minimizing the risk of static discharge in environments where flammable gases may be present.**

## 8. In a customer's vehicle, how should cylinders be positioned concerning the pressure relief valve?

**A. It should be facing down**

**B. It should be in communication with the vapor space**

**C. It should be sealed tightly**

**D. It should be angled at 90 degrees**

**The positioning of cylinders in a customer's vehicle is crucial for safety and functionality. When the pressure relief valve is in communication with the vapor space of the cylinder, it ensures that any buildup of pressure can be released effectively. This is important because the pressure relief valve is designed to prevent the cylinder from reaching dangerously high pressures that could lead to failure or explosion. By allowing the relief valve to remain in contact with the vapor space, any excess pressure can be vented safely to the atmosphere without compromising the integrity of the cylinder. Ensuring that the valve is appropriately positioned allows for the safe operation of the LP-gas system within the vehicle. This placement is in alignment with safety standards and regulations governing the handling of LP-gas. Consequently, positioning the valve in a way that prevents it from being blocked or restricted by liquid LP-gas enhances safety measures during operation.**

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## 9. What action should be taken if a propane cylinder is found to be leaking?

**A. Immediately use water to cool it**

**B. Close the service valve**

**C. Move it indoors**

**D. Inform the local fire department**

**If a propane cylinder is found to be leaking, the action of closing the service valve is the appropriate step to take. Closing the service valve helps to stop the flow of gas from the cylinder, potentially preventing further gas from escaping into the environment. This is a crucial first step in mitigating the risk of fire or explosion, as stopping the leak helps control the situation more effectively. While it is important to act swiftly, other actions such as using water to cool the cylinder could inadvertently exacerbate the situation by introducing additional hazards. Moving the cylinder indoors is also unsafe, as it could lead to gas accumulation in an enclosed space, creating a serious risk of explosion. Informing the local fire department is necessary but should be done after first attempting to secure the cylinder by closing the valve. Addressing the leak by shutting the valve is critical as it directly handles the immediate danger posed by the leak.**

## 10. What is needed for propane to burn effectively?

**A. Flame thrower**

**B. Irritant gas**

**C. Ignition source**

**D. High pressure**

**For propane to burn effectively, it requires an ignition source. This is essential because propane is a flammable gas that needs a specific condition to ignite. The combustion process involves the mixing of propane with oxygen in the air, and the ignition source provides the necessary heat to initiate the chemical reaction. This could come from a match, a lighter, or any other means that generates enough heat to ignite the propane-air mixture. While other options present unsafe or misleading concepts regarding the combustion of propane, they do not meet the criteria for effective burning. An ignition source is fundamental to start the process, which is why it is the correct answer. Without this ignition source, the propane cannot combust, regardless of other factors such as pressure or gas characteristics.**

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