

FIREFIGHTER PROBOARD 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. Which system delivers water from an exterior source up to fire hose outlets on each floor in a high-rise building?**
 - A. Standpipe
 - B. Dry bed
 - C. Cross feed
 - D. Cistern

- 2. Which action is part of the initial approach during an indirect attack after ventilation?**
 - A. Request hoseline to be shut down
 - B. Pick up hoselines so overhaul may begin
 - C. Use a foam blanket to prevent rekindling
 - D. Advanced hose to extinguish hot spots

- 3. Two types of rope used in life-safety situations are:**
 - A. Dynamic and static rope.
 - B. Utility and kernmantle rope.
 - C. Dynamic and utility rope.
 - D. Twisted and braided rope.

- 4. Which of the following is a nonadjustable, single-section ladder?**
 - A. Step ladder
 - B. Extension ladder
 - C. Portable ladder
 - D. Wall ladder

- 5. Within the finance section, which unit handles compensation and claims?**
 - A. Supply Unit
 - B. Compensation/claims Unit
 - C. Federal Emergency Management Agency Liaison Unit
 - D. Acquisitions Unit

- 6. What is the safest PPE maintenance practice after exposure?**
- A. Clean outer shell at least once a year.
 - B. Decontaminate PPE after interior firefighting and medical calls.
 - C. Hang PPE to dry in direct sunlight.
 - D. Wash PPE in station washers and dryers.
- 7. During vertical ventilation, which option describes a safety consideration?**
- A. Adequate lighting on the roof to maintain night vision.
 - B. Structural integrity and fall protection to prevent collapses or falls.
 - C. Weather conditions at the time of ventilation.
 - D. Noise exposure.
- 8. Which tool below is a hand-powered hydraulic spreader tool?**
- A. Spanner tool
 - B. Pompier tool
 - C. Rabbit tool
 - D. Come along tool
- 9. When performing vertical ventilation, what is a primary safety consideration for the roof crew?**
- A. Structural integrity and fall protection to prevent collapses or falls.
 - B. Lighting level requirements.
 - C. Noise exposure.
 - D. Proximity to civilian crowd control.
- 10. Pump tank extinguishers are used to apply which extinguishing agent?**
- A. Wet Chemical
 - B. Dry Chemical
 - C. Carbon Dioxide
 - D. Water

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which system delivers water from an exterior source up to fire hose outlets on each floor in a high-rise building?

A. Standpipe

B. Dry bed

C. Cross feed

D. Cistern

Standpipe systems are built to bring water from an exterior or building water supply up through a high-rise, delivering it to fire hose outlets on each floor. Vertical risers run the water upward, and hoses can be connected at various levels so firefighters on arrival have immediate access without immediately pumping from outside at every floor. These systems can be filled with water at all times (wet standpipe) or kept empty and charged when needed (dry standpipe), but either way the goal is to have a ready water supply accessible at each floor outlet. A cistern stores water but isn't by itself a complete distribution system to every floor's outlets. Cross feed describes sharing water between different feeds or standpipes, not the primary mechanism that delivers water to hose connections on all levels. The term "dry bed" isn't a standard way to name a high-rise fire-water distribution system. That's why the standpipe option best matches the scenario.

2. Which action is part of the initial approach during an indirect attack after ventilation?

A. Request hoseline to be shut down

B. Pick up hoselines so overhaul may begin

C. Use a foam blanket to prevent rekindling

D. Advanced hose to extinguish hot spots

During an indirect attack after ventilation, the first priority is to cool the space and knock down any remaining flame pockets by applying water to the hot spots. Advancing the hose to extinguish those hot spots directly targets the remaining fire, reducing heat and making interior operations safer. Stopping water would let the fire rebound, focusing on overhaul too early delays control, and using a foam blanket isn't a standard initial tactic for this approach. So, moving the hose in to suppress the hot spots is the best starting action.

3. Two types of rope used in life-safety situations are:

A. Dynamic and static rope.

B. Utility and kernmantle rope.

C. Dynamic and utility rope.

D. Twisted and braided rope.

Ropes used in life-safety situations are judged by how much they stretch under load. Dynamic rope is designed to elongate when a load is applied, absorbing the energy of a fall and reducing the peak forces on the person or system. Static rope has very little stretch, providing predictable length and greater control for tasks like hauling, lowering, or rigging in a rescue. Because of these distinct behaviors, the two types commonly associated with life-safety use are dynamic rope and static rope. Other pairings mix construction or general-purpose rope types that don't address how the rope behaves under load, which is the key factor in selecting rope for safety-critical work.

4. Which of the following is a nonadjustable, single-section ladder?

- A. Step ladder
- B. Extension ladder
- C. Portable ladder
- D. Wall ladder**

The main idea is recognizing ladders by whether their length is fixed and whether they're mounted or portable. A nonadjustable, single-section ladder stays the same height and isn't meant to be moved or extended; it's a single rigid piece. A wall ladder fits this description because it's attached to a wall and has a fixed length with no telescoping or folding sections. The other options involve moving or changing height: extension ladders are designed to telescope to different lengths, and step or portable ladders are designed to be moved and often include hinges or multiple parts, so they're not just a single fixed section. So the wall ladder is the one that is nonadjustable and single-section.

5. Within the finance section, which unit handles compensation and claims?

- A. Supply Unit
- B. Compensation/claims Unit**
- C. Federal Emergency Management Agency Liaison Unit
- D. Acquisitions Unit

This item tests how the Finance/Administration Section is organized in incident management, specifically who handles personnel costs and claims. The unit responsible for compensation and claims takes on workers' compensation, insurance claims, and related financial issues for personnel assigned to the incident. It keeps records of injuries, coordinates with insurers and any required external agencies, and ensures proper documentation for reimbursement or settlements. Keeping these tasks in this unit maintains clear accountability and prevents mixing with other financial functions such as procurement or cost tracking. The other units have different roles: the Supply Unit handles equipment and supplies; a FEMA Liaison Unit would coordinate with the Federal Emergency Management Agency; and the Acquisitions Unit handles contracts and purchasing actions.

6. What is the safest PPE maintenance practice after exposure?

- A. Clean outer shell at least once a year.
- B. Decontaminate PPE after interior firefighting and medical calls.**
- C. Hang PPE to dry in direct sunlight.
- D. Wash PPE in station washers and dryers.

After exposure, decontaminating PPE is essential to remove hazardous residues from all surfaces and reduce the risk of transferring contaminants to yourself or others during doffing and reuse. Decontamination using department-approved procedures helps neutralize or wash away chemicals, smoke particulates, and potential pathogens, preserving the gear's protective performance and safety for the next use. Cleaning only once a year leaves contaminants on the gear, increasing exposure risk and not meeting standard care practices. Drying or decontaminating by hanging in direct sunlight can damage materials and isn't a proper cleaning method. Washing in station washers and dryers isn't appropriate for most PPE, as the heat, detergents, and mechanical action can degrade fabrics, seams, and coatings unless the gear is specifically approved for that process. Following the correct, approved decontamination steps after interior firefighting and medical calls keeps the equipment effective and the crew safer.

7. During vertical ventilation, which option describes a safety consideration?

- A. Adequate lighting on the roof to maintain night vision.
- B. Structural integrity and fall protection to prevent collapses or falls.**
- C. Weather conditions at the time of ventilation.
- D. Noise exposure.

Vertical ventilation puts crews on the roof where the structure may be weakened by heat and fire, so the main safety focus is preventing falls and a potential roof collapse. Ensuring structural integrity means evaluating whether the roof can support personnel, equipment, and the temporary loads of the operation, and recognizing any signs of distress, sagging, or fire damage that could lead to sudden failure. Implementing fall protection—harnesses, anchor points, lifelines, edge protection, and a solid rescue plan—directly reduces the risk of serious injury if the roof shifts or gives way. While good lighting, favorable weather, and minimizing noise are important considerations for overall job safety, they do not address the core risk of working on a compromised roof and the potential for falls as effectively as securing the structure and using fall protection.

8. Which tool below is a hand-powered hydraulic spreader tool?

- A. Spanner tool
- B. Pompier tool
- C. Rabbit tool**
- D. Come along tool

Hand-powered hydraulic spreaders use manual pumping to generate fluid pressure that drives a ram and forces the spreader arms apart, creating space between materials. The rabbit tool is a compact hydraulic spreader designed for exactly that function—you pump to build pressure and the spreader arms push outward to pry or widen gaps. This makes it the best fit for a hand-powered hydraulic spreader. The other tools operate differently: a spanner is just a wrench for turning fasteners; a come along is a manual cable winch used for pulling; the pompier tool isn't the hydraulic spreader concept in standard firefighting gear.

9. When performing vertical ventilation, what is a primary safety consideration for the roof crew?

- A. Structural integrity and fall protection to prevent collapses or falls.**
- B. Lighting level requirements.
- C. Noise exposure.
- D. Proximity to civilian crowd control.

Vertical ventilation on the roof brings crew members onto a surface that may be seriously weakened by fire and existing damage. The main safety priority is ensuring the roof remains structurally sound and that fall protection is in place to prevent collapses or falls. If the roof is compromised or overloaded, a step or movement can trigger a collapse, and an unprotected fall into the vent opening or through the roof can be deadly. That's why the roof crew assesses stability, avoids overloading beams, and uses fall protection such as harnesses, lifelines, and secure anchors, with a clear exit route and good communication with interior teams. Lighting, noise, and crowd proximity matter for overall safety, but they don't pose the same immediate, life-threatening risk to the roof crew as a potential collapse or fall.

10. Pump tank extinguishers are used to apply which extinguishing agent?

- A. Wet Chemical
- B. Dry Chemical
- C. Carbon Dioxide

D. Water

Pump tank extinguishers use water as their extinguishing agent. These units store and discharge water, relying on its cooling effect to stop the combustion of ordinary combustibles like wood, paper, and cloth. Other agents—wet chemical (for commercial kitchens), dry chemical (a powder that interrupts chemical reactions), and carbon dioxide (good for electrical fires and enclosed spaces)—are not contained in pump-tank devices, which are designed specifically for delivering water to cool and suppress class A fires.

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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.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

<https://firefighterproboard.examzify.com>

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

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