

Glencoe Carpentry Practice Test (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. According to the Michigan Residential Code, how many nails should attach each wood shingle or wood shake?**
 - A. 1 nail**
 - B. 2 nails**
 - C. 3 nails**
 - D. 4 nails**

- 2. The number of staples along each flanged edge is determined by which specification?**
 - A. The manufacturer's specifications**
 - B. The installer's preference**
 - C. Tile color**
 - D. The room lighting**

- 3. A layer of new wood on a tree just under the bark is called _____.**
 - A. Cambium**
 - B. Phloem**
 - C. Cortex**
 - D. Xylem**

- 4. In constructing a brick veneer wall, which statement meets proper construction and code requirements?**
 - A. Veneer is attached before the supporting structure.**
 - B. Supporting structure is built before attaching the veneer.**
 - C. Veneer is secured with only mortar without a backing.**
 - D. Veneer is not used with wood framing.**

- 5. From the choices below, select the component that is not part of a drop ceiling grid system.**
 - A. Main Runners**
 - B. Furring Strips**
 - C. Cross Tees**
 - D. Wall Angle**

- 6. What is a story pole used to check in framing?**
- A. Height of horizontal framing members.**
 - B. Width of windows.**
 - C. Depth of foundation.**
 - D. Length of diagonal bracing.**
- 7. Nylon or polyester bristle paint brushes are best suited for use w**
- A. Water based paints**
 - B. Oil-based varnishes**
 - C. Solvent-based enamels**
 - D. Wax finishes**
- 8. In block foundation waterproofing, the parging coat would be the _____ layer of cement plaster.**
- A. 2nd layer**
 - B. 1st layer**
 - C. 3rd layer**
 - D. Final layer**
- 9. Which term describes the visible portion of an overlapped shingle?**
- A. Left overhang**
 - B. Exposure**
 - C. Edge of shingle**
 - D. Weather exposure**
- 10. Oriented strand board is also called which material?**
- A. Plywood**
 - B. O.S.B.**
 - C. MDO**
 - D. Hardboard**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. According to the Michigan Residential Code, how many nails should attach each wood shingle or wood shake?

- A. 1 nail
- B. 2 nails**
- C. 3 nails
- D. 4 nails

Two nails are used to attach each wood shingle or wood shake. This provides enough holding power to resist wind uplift and keeps the shingle seated properly across the roof. By fastening with two nails, the load is distributed across the piece, improving stability and reducing the risk that a single nail failure will allow the shingle to loosen. Use corrosion-resistant nails long enough to penetrate into the roof deck as required by code and the shingle manufacturer, and follow the pattern the manufacturer specifies for edge placement and spacing.

2. The number of staples along each flanged edge is determined by which specification?

- A. The manufacturer's specifications
- B. The installer's preference
- C. Tile color
- D. The room lighting**

The number of staples along a flanged edge is determined by the manufacturer's specifications because those patterns are tested and approved for that product. The installation instructions specify exactly how many fasteners are needed, where to place them, and what type and length to use to ensure the edge stays secure, seals properly, and meets performance requirements such as wind resistance or warranty terms. Following the manufacturer's guidance ensures consistent results and avoids issues that could arise from guessing or relying on personal preference. In contrast, factors like tile color or room lighting don't affect the fastening pattern, and the installer's personal preference isn't a reliable standard for edge security. When you're installing, always refer to the product's installation manual for the exact staple count and spacing—they'll provide the appropriate spacing, which might be, for example, staples every several inches along the edge and adjusted near joints or overlaps.

3. A layer of new wood on a tree just under the bark is called

- _____.
- A. Cambium**
 - B. Phloem
 - C. Cortex
 - D. Xylem

Growth in diameter of a tree happens in the cambium, a thin meristematic layer between the bark and the wood. The cambium divides to form new xylem on the inside (which becomes wood) and new phloem on the outside (which stays in the bark). Because it sits just under the bark and is responsible for generating new wood, this layer is described as the source of new wood. Phloem is the outer bark tissue that transports nutrients, cortex is an outer stem layer not involved in wood formation, and xylem is the wood produced by the cambium rather than the growth layer itself.

4. In constructing a brick veneer wall, which statement meets proper construction and code requirements?

- A. Veneer is attached before the supporting structure.
- B. Supporting structure is built before attaching the veneer.**
- C. Veneer is secured with only mortar without a backing.
- D. Veneer is not used with wood framing.

Brick veneer is a non-structural facing that must be carried by a solid structural backing. Building the supporting structure first provides the necessary load path and a secure surface for attaching the veneer with metal ties or anchors. These ties connect the veneer to the framing, transfer loads, and keep the masonry from shifting or pulling away. The wall also needs proper moisture control, drainage, and an air space to prevent water from sitting behind the veneer, which is all planned around the backing wall. Attaching veneer before the structural wall would leave nothing to anchor to and would fail to provide the required support and load transfer, which is why that approach isn't code-compliant. The idea that veneer can be secured with mortar alone without any backing isn't adequate for stability, since mortar by itself doesn't create a reliable attachment to a structural frame. And brick veneer is commonly used with wood framing, so it's not correct to say it isn't used with wood framing. In short, the correct approach is to construct the supporting structure first and then attach the brick veneer to it with proper ties and flashing, ensuring a stable, durable, and code-compliant wall.

5. From the choices below, select the component that is not part of a drop ceiling grid system.

- A. Main Runners
- B. Furring Strips**
- C. Cross Tees
- D. Wall Angle

Drop ceiling grid systems are a modular framework of metal members that hold ceiling tiles. The long members along the room are main runners, the perpendicular members are cross tees that create the grid, and the edge along the walls is formed by wall angles to support the perimeter. Furring strips are used to level or attach drywall or plaster ceilings and aren't part of the suspended grid that holds the tiles. So the component not part of the drop ceiling grid is the furring strips.

6. What is a story pole used to check in framing?

- A. Height of horizontal framing members.**
- B. Width of windows.
- C. Depth of foundation.
- D. Length of diagonal bracing.

A story pole is a long, marked stick used on a framing job to transfer vertical measurements from the floor up the wall. It's used to check the height of horizontal framing members, like top plates and headers, to ensure they sit at the correct elevation along the entire wall. By marking the target heights on the pole, you can quickly compare the actual framing as you build and keep openings for windows and doors aligned and the wall height consistent. It's a handy way to reproduce the same heights across different walls without constantly re-measuring with a tape. It isn't used for measuring window widths, foundation depth, or diagonal bracing length.

7. Nylon or polyester bristle paint brushes are best suited for use w

- A. Water based paints**
- B. Oil-based varnishes**
- C. Solvent-based enamels**
- D. Wax finishes**

Nylon or polyester bristles are synthetic and resist swelling when exposed to water, so they perform best with water-based finishes. They hold their shape and snap well under the thin, aqueous film of latex or acrylic paints, and they're easy to clean after use. Oil-based varnishes or solvent-based enamels, which are thicker and rely on oils or solvents, are smoother with natural hog bristles that load and release these coatings more effectively. Wax finishes aren't typically brushed with these bristles, so they don't fit as well. In short, the compatibility and easy cleanup with water-based paints make nylon or polyester brushes the best choice here.

8. In block foundation waterproofing, the parging coat would be the _____ layer of cement plaster.

- A. 2nd layer**
- B. 1st layer**
- C. 3rd layer**
- D. Final layer**

In block foundation waterproofing, the parging coat is applied directly to the masonry as the first layer. It provides a fresh, uniform surface and a good key for the remaining plaster and waterproofing systems, filling in minor irregularities and sealing the base so that the subsequent coats can bond properly. Since it is the base that everything else rests on, it wouldn't be the finishing or final coat, which comes last.

9. Which term describes the visible portion of an overlapped shingle?

- A. Left overhang**
- B. Exposure**
- C. Edge of shingle**
- D. Weather exposure**

When shingles are laid in overlapping courses, the part of each shingle that you can see on the roof is called the exposure. It's the portion left visible after the next course covers the lower edge. This exposed area is what matters for weather protection and wind resistance, and it helps determine how many shingles you need for a roof. The other terms don't describe the visible, weather-facing portion of the shingle: left overhang refers to how far the roof extends beyond the fascia, weather exposure isn't a standard term for this purpose, and edge of shingle is too vague to specify the visible portion.

10. Oriented strand board is also called which material?

A. Plywood

B. O.S.B.

C. MDO

D. Hardboard

Oriented strand board is a type of engineered wood panel formed from wood strands laid in cross-oriented layers and bonded with adhesive. The material is commonly referred to by its initials, OSB. This distinguishes it from plywood, which uses veneer sheets; MDO, which is plywood with a smooth overlay; and hardboard, which is a dense fiberboard. OSB's construction—strands oriented in multiple directions—gives good stiffness and strength for sheathing and subflooring, usually at a lower cost.

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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://glencoecarpentry.examzify.com>

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

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