

GMetrix Photoshop 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. In relation to gradients, which term defines the transition range between two colors?**
 - A. Color Saturation**
 - B. Hue Leap**
 - C. Gradient Anchor**
 - D. Color Midpoint**

- 2. In a layer mask, which color reveals and which conceals?**
 - A. White conceals, Black reveals**
 - B. White reveals, Black hides**
 - C. Black reveals, White hides**
 - D. Gray reveals, Black hides**

- 3. Which file format stores unprocessed image data with higher dynamic range and more latitude for adjustments than a standard JPEG?**
 - A. JPEG**
 - B. PNG**
 - C. RAW**
 - D. GIF**

- 4. How do you apply a mask to fade a subject into the background using gradient masking?**
 - A. Add a layer mask to the background; use Gradient Tool on the mask from white to black to fade**
 - B. Add a layer mask to the subject; use Brush Tool with white color to fade**
 - C. Add a layer mask to the subject; select Gradient Tool and drag on the mask from opaque to transparent to fade the subject into background; white reveals, black hides**
 - D. Add a gradient fill layer above the subject**

- 5. Which Photoshop print feature includes little marks indicating where the print should be trimmed?**
 - A. Guides**
 - B. Crop Marks**
 - C. Bleed Marks**
 - D. Printer Marks**

- 6. Which steps are used to batch process images using Photoshop Actions?**
- A. Use Image Processor to apply to a folder**
 - B. Record an Action with steps; go to File > Automate > Batch to apply to a folder**
 - C. Draw on each image manually**
 - D. Use Image > Adjustments > Batch**
- 7. Which CC license is associated with the Individual icon?**
- A. Non-commercial (NC)**
 - B. Attribution (BY)**
 - C. Public Domain (PD)**
 - D. Share-alike (SA)**
- 8. Which sequence creates a non-destructive layer mask by loading a selection named Bird and revealing it on the Bird layer so the Grass background shows through?**
- A. Click on the Grass layer to select it; Load Selection; Channel Bird; Reveal Selection**
 - B. Click on the Kingfisher layer to select it; Open the Select menu and choose Load Selection; Choose Bird in the Channel dropdown; Reveal Selection via Layer Mask**
 - C. Click on the Bird layer; Load Selection Bird; Use Layer Mask to Reveal**
 - D. Click on the Kingfisher layer to select it; Click the Select menu and choose Load Selection; In the Channel dropdown select Bird; Click OK; Then click the Layer menu, hover Layer Mask, and select Reveal Selection**
- 9. Tracking refers to which spacing adjustment?**
- A. Controls the space between two specific characters**
 - B. Sets the amount of space between a range of characters**
 - C. Controls the amount of space between lines of type**
 - D. A variation on a typeface, such as bold, italics, or normal**

10. What action does the Swatches panel primarily facilitate in Photoshop?

- A. Adjusting brightness only**
- B. Saving and selecting colors to reuse**
- C. Exporting a video**
- D. Creating 3D models**

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. In relation to gradients, which term defines the transition range between two colors?

- A. Color Saturation**
- B. Hue Leap**
- C. Gradient Anchor**
- D. Color Midpoint**

In gradients, colors blend by interpolating between color stops, and the transition range is the portion where that blend occurs. The color exactly halfway between two stops—its position along the gradient where the influence of each color is equal—is called the color midpoint. This midpoint controls how the transition looks: if it sits closer to the first color, that color dominates more of the gradient before shifting toward the second; if it sits closer to the second, the second color takes over sooner. Other options describe aspects like color intensity (saturation) or an abrupt change (a hue leap), which don't characterize the smooth transition between colors. The color midpoint is the term that best captures the region where the two colors meet and blend.

2. In a layer mask, which color reveals and which conceals?

- A. White conceals, Black reveals**
- B. White reveals, Black hides**
- C. Black reveals, White hides**
- D. Gray reveals, Black hides**

In a layer mask, grayscale values control transparency. The brighter the mask area, the more of the layer is shown; the darker the mask area, the more of the layer is hidden. White on the mask reveals the layer's pixels in that area, while black hides them, letting the layers beneath show through. Gray values produce partial transparency for smooth blending. So white reveals and black hides.

3. Which file format stores unprocessed image data with higher dynamic range and more latitude for adjustments than a standard JPEG?

- A. JPEG**
- B. PNG**
- C. RAW**
- D. GIF**

RAW files preserve the unprocessed sensor data, captured with minimal in-camera processing. This means the image retains nearly linear brightness information across a wide range, giving you far more tonal detail and a much larger latitude for edits like adjusting exposure, recovering shadows and highlights, and tweaking white balance without introducing artifacts. In contrast, JPEG is a processed, highly compressed format created by the camera that applies sharpening, noise reduction, color adjustments, and gamma corrections. Those applied changes already reduce tonal nuance and limit how much you can alter the image later without quality loss. PNG stores an image after processing (and compression), so it doesn't provide the same access to raw sensor data or the broad dynamic range that RAW offers. GIF relies on a very limited color palette, which further restricts editing potential and dynamic range. So RAW is best for keeping unprocessed data with maximum dynamic range and editing flexibility.

4. How do you apply a mask to fade a subject into the background using gradient masking?
- A. Add a layer mask to the background; use Gradient Tool on the mask from white to black to fade
 - B. Add a layer mask to the subject; use Brush Tool with white color to fade
 - C. Add a layer mask to the subject; select Gradient Tool and drag on the mask from opaque to transparent to fade the subject into background; white reveals, black hides**
 - D. Add a gradient fill layer above the subject

Fading a subject into the background with gradient masking relies on using a layer mask to control transparency on the subject's layer. On a mask, white means the subject is fully visible, black hides it, and gray creates partial transparency. By applying a gradient to the subject's mask and dragging from opaque (white) to transparent (black), you establish a smooth transition where the subject gradually disappears into the background. This non-destructive approach lets you tweak the fade simply by reworking the gradient's direction, length, or midpoint. Doing the fade on the background mask would dim the background instead of the subject, which isn't what you want. Painting with white on the subject's mask would reveal more of the subject rather than fade it. A gradient fill layer above the subject isn't masking the subject itself and doesn't create the same edge-to-background blend.

5. Which Photoshop print feature includes little marks indicating where the print should be trimmed?
- A. Guides
 - B. Crop Marks**
 - C. Bleed Marks
 - D. Printer Marks

Crop marks are the little lines at the edge of a print that show exactly where the sheet will be trimmed. They act as guides for the printer so the final piece ends up at the correct size, with the trim lines matching your design. These marks sit outside the finished area and aren't meant to be part of the artwork. Bleed marks indicate an extra margin of color beyond the trim to avoid white edges after cutting, but they aren't trim guides themselves. Printer marks cover a broader set of indicators used by printers (like registration or color bars) and aren't specifically the trim guides. So the marks that show where to trim are crop marks.

6. Which steps are used to batch process images using Photoshop Actions?

- A. Use Image Processor to apply to a folder**
- B. Record an Action with steps; go to File > Automate > Batch to apply to a folder**
- C. Draw on each image manually**
- D. Use Image > Adjustments > Batch**

Batch processing with Photoshop Actions means first recording a set of edits as an Action, then applying that exact sequence to every image in a folder. You start by recording the Action: perform the edits you want once, then stop recording. After that, use File > Automate > Batch to run that Action on all files in a chosen source folder, saving the results to a destination. This approach ensures every image receives the same edits automatically, which is the essence of batching with Actions. Using Image Processor is a scripted batch tool that can process many files, but it isn't about applying a single recorded Action to a batch. There isn't a Batch option under Adjustments, and performing edits manually on each image defeats the purpose of batch processing.

7. Which CC license is associated with the Individual icon?

- A. Non-commercial (NC)**
- B. Attribution (BY)**
- C. Public Domain (PD)**
- D. Share-alike (SA)**

The symbols used with Creative Commons licenses communicate what you must do with the work. The icon of an individual person specifically signals attribution—giving credit to the creator. That corresponds to CC BY, the Attribution license. It lets you use, remix, and share the work (including for commercial purposes) as long as you credit the creator properly. The other options relate to different restrictions or permissions (Public Domain means no rights at all, Non-commercial restricts use to non-commercial contexts, Share-alike requires derivatives to be licensed under the same terms), and their icons aren't the single-person symbol. So the Individual icon points to attribution, making it the correct association.

- 8. Which sequence creates a non-destructive layer mask by loading a selection named Bird and revealing it on the Bird layer so the Grass background shows through?**
- A. Click on the Grass layer to select it; Load Selection; Channel Bird; Reveal Selection**
 - B. Click on the Kingfisher layer to select it; Open the Select menu and choose Load Selection; Choose Bird in the Channel dropdown; Reveal Selection via Layer Mask**
 - C. Click on the Bird layer; Load Selection Bird; Use Layer Mask to Reveal**
 - D. Click on the Kingfisher layer to select it; Click the Select menu and choose Load Selection; In the Channel dropdown select Bird; Click OK; Then click the Layer menu, hover Layer Mask, and select Reveal Selection**

The technique tested is turning a saved selection into a layer mask to edit non-destructively. The idea is to use a named selection (Bird) as the source for a mask on the layer you want to work with, so you can control visibility without erasing pixels. In this approach, you first make the layer that will receive the mask active (the Bird/Kingfisher layer). Then you load the selection from the channel that contains the Bird outline, choosing that channel to activate the Bird selection. Once the Bird selection is active, you apply it as a mask by choosing Reveal Selection from the Layer Mask options. This creates a mask on that layer based on the Bird selection, which preserves the original image and uses the Grass background to show through in areas that aren't part of the Bird selection. Using this sequence is best because it directly connects the saved Bird selection to the correct layer and converts it into a mask without altering pixels, keeping edits non-destructive. Other sequences either target the wrong layer or bypass the channel-based selection step, which would fail to produce the intended mask.

- 9. Tracking refers to which spacing adjustment?**
- A. Controls the space between two specific characters**
 - B. Sets the amount of space between a range of characters**
 - C. Controls the amount of space between lines of type**
 - D. A variation on a typeface, such as bold, italics, or normal**

Tracking is the adjustment of space uniformly between characters across a range of text. It sets the space between a sequence of characters, tightening or loosening the overall spacing for a word or line. This differs from kerning, which targets the space between a specific pair of characters to improve optical balance, and from leading, which is the vertical distance between lines. A change in font style (bold, italics, normal) affects the appearance of the characters, not their horizontal spacing.

10. What action does the Swatches panel primarily facilitate in Photoshop?

- A. Adjusting brightness only**
- B. Saving and selecting colors to reuse**
- C. Exporting a video**
- D. Creating 3D models**

The Swatches panel is all about color management for reuse. It lets you save colors you've chosen so you can quickly pick them again later, ensuring consistency across your project. When a color is saved as a swatch, you can simply click that swatch to set the foreground color, which speeds up applying the same hue to brushes, fills, text, and other tools without re-picking or recreating the color each time. You can also load, organize, or export swatch sets to keep a cohesive color palette across documents. This isn't about adjusting brightness, exporting media, or building 3D models, which are handled by other tools and panels in Photoshop.

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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://gmetrixphotoshop.examzify.com>

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

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