

Gun License Open Book 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. How is brandishing defined in firearm laws?**
 - A. Displaying a firearm in a threatening or menacing way not reasonably necessary for self-defense**
 - B. Carrying a firearm openly in a holster during a hunt**
 - C. Displaying a toy gun in a store**
 - D. Carrying a firearm only during approved times**

- 2. Stand-your-ground versus duty-to-retreat concepts describe how you may defend yourself. Which statement is accurate?**
 - A. They are identical.**
 - B. Stand-your-ground requires retreat in all cases.**
 - C. Duty-to-retreat varies by jurisdiction and is not universal.**
 - D. Stand-your-ground allows defense without retreat in some circumstances, while others require retreat if safe; laws vary by jurisdiction.**

- 3. How long before the expiry date must a licence holder apply for renewal?**
 - A. 90 days**
 - B. 30 days**
 - C. 180 days**
 - D. 6 months**

- 4. What is a magazine disconnect safety and how does it affect firing?**
 - A. A safety feature that prevents the trigger from firing if the magazine is removed.**
 - B. A safety mechanism that prevents firing unless the hammer is cocked.**
 - C. A feature that automatically ejects the magazine after triggering.**
 - D. A feature that disables the safety when the magazine is present.**

- 5. Which statement accurately defines a hangfire?**
- A. A hangfire is when there is no ignition at all.**
 - B. A hangfire is a delayed ignition after the trigger is pulled.**
 - C. A hangfire is when the spent casing fails to eject.**
 - D. A hangfire is a misfire caused by incorrect ammunition storage.**
- 6. Which of the following statements correctly describes general transport rules for firearms in a vehicle?**
- A. Transport loaded and ready to use, in a holster on your person.**
 - B. Transport unloaded, in a locked container or case, separate from ammunition; comply with local laws regarding concealment or open carry.**
 - C. Keep the firearm in the passenger seat, loaded.**
 - D. Transport in a soft bag with ammunition inside.**
- 7. What is the period of validity for the licence to possess firearm for occasional hunting and sports shooting?**
- A. 5 years**
 - B. 2 years**
 - C. 10 years**
 - D. 1 year**
- 8. Which component is a major part of a revolver that is not typically part of a semi-automatic pistol?**
- A. Cylinder**
 - B. Slide**
 - C. Magazine**
 - D. Sights**
- 9. What should you do if you notice a damaged or worn firearm part?**
- A. Cease use immediately, secure the firearm, and have it inspected or repaired by a qualified gunsmith.**
 - B. Continue using and monitor for malfunctions.**
 - C. File an insurance claim while using it.**
 - D. Ignore it until a later date.**

10. Under which section is it permissible to take fingerprints without a warrant if there are reasonable grounds to suspect a serious offence?

- A. Section 113(1)**
- B. Section 114(1)**
- C. Section 115(1)**
- D. Section 108(1)**

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. How is brandishing defined in firearm laws?

- A. Displaying a firearm in a threatening or menacing way not reasonably necessary for self-defense**
- B. Carrying a firearm openly in a holster during a hunt**
- C. Displaying a toy gun in a store**
- D. Carrying a firearm only during approved times**

Brandishing focuses on how the firearm is shown and the purpose behind that display. It means presenting a gun in a threatening or menacing way when there isn't a reasonable need for self-defense. The key factors are the threatening manner and the lack of a legitimate defensive purpose for displaying the firearm. That's why this option is the best answer: it captures the exact behavior and intent that most laws use to define brandishing—an intimidating display that isn't necessary for self-defense. The other scenarios don't fit brandishing because: - Openly carrying a firearm during a hunt is typically for a legitimate activity and, when done within the rules, isn't aimed at intimidating others. - Displaying a toy gun isn't a real firearm, and while it could raise concerns in some contexts, it does not meet the standard definition of brandishing of a real weapon. - Carrying a firearm only during approved times describes lawful carrying for permitted periods, not an intentional, threatening display.

2. Stand-your-ground versus duty-to-retreat concepts describe how you may defend yourself. Which statement is accurate?

- A. They are identical.**
- B. Stand-your-ground requires retreat in all cases.**
- C. Duty-to-retreat varies by jurisdiction and is not universal.**
- D. Stand-your-ground allows defense without retreat in some circumstances, while others require retreat if safe; laws vary by jurisdiction.**

Understanding how stand-your-ground and duty-to-retreat affect self-defense helps you see when you can act without retreating versus when you must retreat if safe. In some jurisdictions, stand-your-ground means you're not required to retreat before using force if there's an imminent threat and your use of force is reasonable and proportional, even if retreat would be possible. In other places, there's a duty to retreat: you should disengage and escape if a safe retreat is available before using force. Laws vary widely by jurisdiction, and there can be additional nuances depending on location (public space vs. home), who initiated the confrontation, and the specific circumstances of the threat. So the most accurate statement is that stand-your-ground allows defense without retreat in some circumstances, while others require retreat if safe; laws vary by jurisdiction.

3. How long before the expiry date must a licence holder apply for renewal?

- A. 90 days**
- B. 30 days**
- C. 180 days**
- D. 6 months**

Renewal timing matters because you want to have the licence renewed before it runs out, so there's no gap in your authority to possess or use it. The standard window is ninety days before the expiry date. Submitting renewal a full ninety days ahead gives enough time for the processing and any extra checks to be completed without the licence lapsing. If you wait only thirty days before expiry, there's a real risk that processing won't finish in time and the licence could lapse. Waiting as far as six months (180 days) ahead isn't the normal renewal window and doesn't align with the typical processing timeline, which is why it isn't the correct choice in this context. So ninety days before expiry is the timing that best fits ensuring a smooth renewal.

4. What is a magazine disconnect safety and how does it affect firing?

- A. A safety feature that prevents the trigger from firing if the magazine is removed.**
- B. A safety mechanism that prevents firing unless the hammer is cocked.**
- C. A feature that automatically ejects the magazine after triggering.**
- D. A feature that disables the safety when the magazine is present.**

A magazine disconnect safety means that firing the gun depends on having a magazine seated. When the magazine is removed, a disconnect lever locks the trigger/sear so it cannot release the firing mechanism. So, even if there is a round in the chamber, pulling the trigger won't discharge the gun without the magazine in place. This helps prevent accidental discharge during magazine changes or handling when the gun isn't fully set up for firing. It's not about whether the hammer is cocked, and it doesn't automatically eject the magazine or function differently just because the magazine is present.

5. Which statement accurately defines a hangfire?

- A. A hangfire is when there is no ignition at all.**
- B. A hangfire is a delayed ignition after the trigger is pulled.**
- C. A hangfire is when the spent casing fails to eject.**
- D. A hangfire is a misfire caused by incorrect ammunition storage.**

A hangfire is a delayed ignition after the trigger is pulled. In this situation, the primer detonates and you may hear a click or a flash, but the main powder charge doesn't ignite immediately and fires a short moment later. This distinguishes it from a true misfire, where there is no ignition at all after pulling the trigger. It also isn't about a spent casing not ejecting or incorrect ammo storage—that describes other malfunctions. If you suspect a hangfire, keep the firearm pointed downrange and wait a brief moment to see if it fires, then proceed with safe clearing if nothing happens.

6. Which of the following statements correctly describes general transport rules for firearms in a vehicle?

A. Transport loaded and ready to use, in a holster on your person.

B. Transport unloaded, in a locked container or case, separate from ammunition; comply with local laws regarding concealment or open carry.

C. Keep the firearm in the passenger seat, loaded.

D. Transport in a soft bag with ammunition inside.

General transport rules for firearms in a vehicle focus on safety and legal compliance: the firearm should be unloaded and placed in a locked container or case, kept separate from ammunition, and you must follow local laws about concealment or open carry. Unloading reduces the risk of accidental discharge, while a locked container limits access and helps prevent theft. Keeping ammunition separate further reduces danger and aligns with most jurisdictions' requirements for how firearms must be transported. Depending on where you are, there may be additional rules about whether you can conceal or openly carry, so it's important to know and follow those local laws. The other scenarios don't fit because carrying a loaded firearm on your person or in the passenger area creates safety and legal issues, and storing the firearm with ammunition in a soft bag does not meet the usual rule of separation and secure storage.

7. What is the period of validity for the licence to possess firearm for occasional hunting and sports shooting?

A. 5 years

B. 2 years

C. 10 years

D. 1 year

Ten years is the period for this category because licenses issued for occasional hunting and sports shooting are designed to cover a longer window of ongoing, recreational use. This duration reduces how often you need to renew while still ensuring safety requirements and compliance are maintained through periodic reviews. Shorter terms like five years, two years, or one year are typically associated with other license types or more frequent verification, whereas ten years matches the policy for recreational use of firearms.

8. Which component is a major part of a revolver that is not typically part of a semi-automatic pistol?

- A. Cylinder**
- B. Slide**
- C. Magazine**
- D. Sights**

Think about how each gun feeds ammunition. A revolver uses a rotating cylinder that holds several cartridges, with each chamber lining up with the barrel as the gun cycles. That cylinder is a distinct, standalone unit essential to how a revolver delivers rounds. Semi-automatic pistols don't have a rotating cylinder; they feed from a detachable magazine and use a slide to cycle the action, eject spent cases, and chamber the next round. Sights are just aiming tools that both types can have. So the cylinder is the component distinctive to revolvers and not a typical part of semi-automatic pistols.

9. What should you do if you notice a damaged or worn firearm part?

- A. Cease use immediately, secure the firearm, and have it inspected or repaired by a qualified gunsmith.**
- B. Continue using and monitor for malfunctions.**
- C. File an insurance claim while using it.**
- D. Ignore it until a later date.**

Damaged or worn firearm parts raise the risk of malfunction and serious injury, so safety requires treating the firearm as unsafe until it's properly inspected. Stop using it immediately, secure it unloaded in a safe direction, and arrange inspection or repair by a qualified gunsmith. A trained professional can assess wear, replace faulty components, and verify everything functions correctly before it's put back into service. Continuing to shoot with a damaged part or ignoring the issue greatly increases the chance of misfires, unintended discharges, or other dangerous failures, so those approaches are not appropriate.

10. Under which section is it permissible to take fingerprints without a warrant if there are reasonable grounds to suspect a serious offence?

A. Section 113(1)

B. Section 114(1)

C. Section 115(1)

D. Section 108(1)

Taking fingerprints without a warrant is allowed when there are reasonable grounds to suspect involvement in a serious offence. This exception exists to quickly identify a person and secure evidence while the seriousness of the crime justifies a prompt, non-invasive collection. Fingerprinting is seen as a routine, low-harm method that helps prevent loss or tampering of evidence and supports the investigation without waiting for a warrant. The requirement of reasonable grounds keeps the power grounded in facts rather than guesswork, and the focus on a serious offence ensures the threshold is higher, protecting privacy in lesser matters. Other sections deal with different situations—such as when a warrant is required, or when other types of evidence or offences are involved—so they don't apply to this particular scenario.

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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://gunlicenseopenbook.examzify.com>

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

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