

# International Plumbing Code Practice Test (Sample)

## Study Guide



**Everything you need from our exam experts!**

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# Table of Contents

**Copyright** ..... 1

**Table of Contents** ..... 2

**Introduction** ..... 3

**How to Use This Guide** ..... 4

**Questions** ..... 5

**Answers** ..... 8

**Explanations** ..... 10

**Next Steps** ..... 16

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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. What is the advantage of having lavatories near water closets in public facilities?**
  - A. Ease of access for handwashing**
  - B. Cost reduction in installations**
  - C. Improved plumbing efficiency**
  - D. Reduced waiting times**
  
- 2. What is the required diameter for the waste outlet of bathtubs?**
  - A. 1 inch**
  - B. 1 1/4 inches**
  - C. 1 1/2 inches**
  - D. 2 inches**
  
- 3. How is the developed length of a pipeline defined?**
  - A. The straight-line distance from start to finish**
  - B. The total length including all bends and fittings**
  - C. The length measured along the central line of the pipe**
  - D. The length required for proper drainage elimination**
  
- 4. Rigid support shall be provided at changes in direction for horizontal pipes of what sizes?**
  - A. 3 inches and larger**
  - B. 4 inches and larger**
  - C. 5 inches and larger**
  - D. 6 inches and larger**
  
- 5. What is the maximum travel distance allowed for a public drinking fountain from the most remote location within a tenant space?**
  - A. 200 feet**
  - B. 300 feet**
  - C. 400 feet**
  - D. 500 feet**

6. A pan for a water heater shall not be less than \_\_\_\_ inches in depth.
- A. 1
  - B. 1 1/2
  - C. 2
  - D. 2 1/2
7. What must be in place before a rough-in inspection can be performed?
- A. All fixtures and fittings
  - B. The roof, framing, and all related piping
  - C. Only water distribution pipes
  - D. Final finishing touches
8. Which type of assembly requires annual inspections to ensure operability?
- A. Drainage systems
  - B. Backflow prevention assemblies
  - C. Wastewater systems
  - D. Fixtures and fittings
9. What is the minimum size of a condensate drainage line pipe for refrigeration units between 20 and 35 tons?
- A. 1 inch
  - B. 2 inches
  - C. 1.5 inches
  - D. 3 inches
10. What is the minimum height that urinal partitions should extend above the finished floor surface?
- A. 48 inches
  - B. 54 inches
  - C. 60 inches
  - D. 66 inches

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. What is the advantage of having lavatories near water closets in public facilities?**

- A. Ease of access for handwashing**
- B. Cost reduction in installations**
- C. Improved plumbing efficiency**
- D. Reduced waiting times**

Having lavatories near water closets in public facilities primarily offers the advantage of ease of access for handwashing. This design facilitates hygiene practices by allowing individuals to wash their hands immediately after using the restroom. The proximity encourages proper sanitation, which is critical in public spaces to prevent the spread of germs and maintain overall health standards. While cost reduction in installations, improved plumbing efficiency, and reduced waiting times may also be important factors in restroom design, the key benefit of situating lavatories adjacent to water closets is to promote and encourage hand hygiene. This alignment underscores the importance of public health practices in restroom facilities.

**2. What is the required diameter for the waste outlet of bathtubs?**

- A. 1 inch**
- B. 1 1/4 inches**
- C. 1 1/2 inches**
- D. 2 inches**

The required diameter for the waste outlet of bathtubs is typically specified as 1 1/2 inches. This size is mandated in order to ensure adequate drainage performance for the volume of water that bathtubs typically hold and to prevent blockages from occurring due to insufficient drainage capacity. Bathtubs often discharge a large quantity of water quickly when emptied, and having a larger diameter for the waste outlet helps facilitate this swift drainage. A 1 1/4-inch outlet may not provide sufficient flow capacity, especially under specific conditions where multiple fixtures may drain simultaneously. Having the correct diameter not only ensures compliance with plumbing codes but also supports the overall functionality and efficiency of the plumbing system, reducing the chances of potential backups and plumbing issues in the future.

### 3. How is the developed length of a pipeline defined?

- A. The straight-line distance from start to finish
- B. The total length including all bends and fittings
- C. The length measured along the central line of the pipe**
- D. The length required for proper drainage elimination

The developed length of a pipeline is defined as the length measured along the central line of the pipe. This definition takes into account the actual physical path that the fluid travels through the pipeline, which is crucial for determining flow characteristics, pressure drops, and other hydraulic calculations. This measurement is significant because it includes the nuances of how the pipe runs through a space, including any curves or deviations from a straight line. In practical applications, understanding the developed length is essential for proper installation, maintenance, and ensuring the efficiency of the plumbing system. Other definitions may refer to different aspects of a pipeline, such as the straight-line distance between endpoints or the total length with bends and fittings, but these do not accurately reflect the hydraulic considerations necessary for plumbing design. Therefore, focusing explicitly on the central line offers a more accurate representation of the pipeline's influence on fluid dynamics.

### 4. Rigid support shall be provided at changes in direction for horizontal pipes of what sizes?

- A. 3 inches and larger
- B. 4 inches and larger**
- C. 5 inches and larger
- D. 6 inches and larger

Rigid support is essential for maintaining the integrity and function of horizontal piping systems, particularly at points where the pipes change direction. According to the International Plumbing Code, horizontal pipes that are 4 inches and larger require rigid support at each change in direction. This requirement ensures that the pipes remain stable and prevents undue stress on joints and fittings that could lead to leaks or failures. Using rigid support for larger pipe sizes is necessary because as the diameter of the pipe increases, so does the weight and momentum when the flow changes direction. Proper support helps distribute the load evenly and prevents sagging or misalignment that can occur over time, particularly in environments with temperature fluctuations or vibrations. Hence, pipes of this size must adhere to the code to ensure long-term durability and reliable operation of plumbing systems.

**5. What is the maximum travel distance allowed for a public drinking fountain from the most remote location within a tenant space?**

- A. 200 feet
- B. 300 feet
- C. 400 feet
- D. 500 feet**

The maximum travel distance for a public drinking fountain from the most remote location within a tenant space is established in the International Plumbing Code to ensure accessibility and convenience. The correct answer indicates that the maximum travel distance is set at 500 feet. This distance is designed to accommodate the needs of individuals in large spaces, such as shopping malls or office buildings, ensuring that drinking water is readily available without requiring extensive travel. This provision reflects the Code's emphasis on public health and safety, promoting access to hydration in environments where patrons might otherwise be unable to find a drinking fountain within a reasonable distance. Keeping the maximum distance at 500 feet allows these facilities to meet varying spatial requirements while still emphasizing accessibility standards for all individuals. Other distances provided in the choices are not aligned with current standards as they would limit the flexibility and accessibility needed in larger tenant spaces. Regulations like this are crucial for ensuring comfort and health for the public.

**6. A pan for a water heater shall not be less than \_\_\_ inches in depth.**

- A. 1
- B. 1 1/2**
- C. 2
- D. 2 1/2

The correct answer indicates that a pan for a water heater must have a minimum depth of 1 1/2 inches. This specification is crucial for ensuring that any water or leaks from the heater are adequately contained within the pan, preventing potential damage to surrounding structures or flooring. A depth of at least 1 1/2 inches is designed to provide sufficient capacity to hold an appropriate volume of water in case of a failure. The choice of 1 1/2 inches is based on industry standards to ensure effective drainage and safety. If a pan were to be shallower than this minimum depth, it might not effectively prevent overflow, leading to water damage or hazardous conditions. Therefore, adhering to this minimum requirement ensures that plumbing installations meet safety regulations and function as intended.

**7. What must be in place before a rough-in inspection can be performed?**

- A. All fixtures and fittings**
- B. The roof, framing, and all related piping**
- C. Only water distribution pipes**
- D. Final finishing touches**

Before a rough-in inspection can be performed, it is essential that the roof, framing, and all related piping are in place. This step is critical because a rough-in inspection is designed to ensure that the plumbing system is correctly installed before the walls and other finishes are completed. During this inspection, the inspector checks the structural integrity of the finished work and verifies that the framing can support the plumbing system, in addition to ensuring that the piping is routed properly for both water supply and drainage. Without the roof and framing, it would be impossible to verify that the installation adheres to the plumbing code requirements and that it will function properly once the building is finished. Having all fixtures and fittings installed or final finishing touches applied would complicate this process, as inspectors would need to look behind finished walls, which is not feasible during a rough-in phase. Therefore, it is vital to have the key structural components and the necessary piping in place before proceeding with the inspection.

**8. Which type of assembly requires annual inspections to ensure operability?**

- A. Drainage systems**
- B. Backflow prevention assemblies**
- C. Wastewater systems**
- D. Fixtures and fittings**

Backflow prevention assemblies are critical components in plumbing systems designed to prevent contaminated water from flowing back into the potable water supply. Due to their specific function of maintaining the safety of drinking water, it is essential that these assemblies are not only installed correctly but also maintained in proper working order. The International Plumbing Code mandates annual inspections of backflow prevention assemblies to verify their effectiveness. Such regular inspections help ensure that any potential failures or malfunctions are identified and rectified promptly, thereby protecting public health and safety. Other types of systems, such as drainage systems, wastewater systems, and fixtures and fittings, while they require maintenance and oversight, do not have the same explicit mandate for annual inspections focused solely on their operability in the same way that backflow prevention assemblies do. This distinction highlights the critical nature of backflow prevention devices within the plumbing framework and the rigorous standards applied to them.

**9. What is the minimum size of a condensate drainage line pipe for refrigeration units between 20 and 35 tons?**

- A. 1 inch**
- B. 2 inches**
- C. 1.5 inches**
- D. 3 inches**

The minimum size of a condensate drainage line pipe for refrigeration units between 20 and 35 tons is indeed 1 inch. This sizing is based on the need to effectively remove the condensate produced by these units without causing backups or prolonging the discharge time. Using a 1-inch pipe is generally adequate for handling the typical volume of condensate generated in this range of refrigeration systems, ensuring that the flow is maintained without restrictions. Larger pipe sizes, such as 1.5 inches, 2 inches, or 3 inches, could be used in certain scenarios where larger volumes of condensate are expected, or in longer runs where larger diameters can offset possible friction losses. However, for standard installations with typical condensate volumes produced by refrigeration units within the specified tonnage, a 1-inch pipe is sufficient and complies with relevant plumbing codes. This understanding highlights the importance of sizing drainage lines appropriately to ensure efficient operation within the specified parameters of HVAC systems.

**10. What is the minimum height that urinal partitions should extend above the finished floor surface?**

- A. 48 inches**
- B. 54 inches**
- C. 60 inches**
- D. 66 inches**

The minimum height for urinal partitions is specified to ensure privacy for users while maintaining a practical design in restroom facilities. Setting the height at 60 inches above the finished floor surface strikes a balance between privacy and accessibility. This height allows for effective screening of the user while accommodating various heights and types of users. Partition heights that are too low can compromise privacy, making users uncomfortable and potentially exposing them to unwanted visibility. On the other hand, excessively high partitions may not be necessary and could lead to more material being used than is required, which may not match the overall design philosophy of the restroom layout. Thus, 60 inches is established as a standard that promotes user comfort and privacy while adhering to guidelines that are often found in plumbing and building codes, including the International Plumbing Code. This standard height is widely accepted in restroom design to meet the needs of a diverse population.

## 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](mailto:hello@examzify.com).**

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

**<https://intlplumbingcode.examzify.com>**

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

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