

Introduction to Mobile Cranes 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. OSHA requires clearance of _____ when voltage is unknown over 350 kV.**
 - A. 40 ft**
 - B. 50 ft**
 - C. 60 ft**
 - D. 70 ft**

- 2. What should an operator do if he is worried about the safety of the operation of the crane?**
 - A. Stop operations, start only when safety issue is cleared up**
 - B. Continue with caution**
 - C. Lower the load and continue**
 - D. Increase speed to complete task**

- 3. Which action helps ensure safe signaling before moving a load over a new path?**
 - A. Sound the horn**
 - B. Engage the emergency brake**
 - C. Increase load line tension**
 - D. Brief the crew in the cab**

- 4. Whose guidance should be consulted for wind-related operating conditions?**
 - A. Crane manufacturers**
 - B. Weather service**
 - C. Local regulations**
 - D. Company policy**

- 5. When is it allowed to hoist personnel?**
 - A. When there is no less hazardous way of performing job**
 - B. Any time**
 - C. Only with a permit**
 - D. Never**

- 6. Lifting personnel is not allowed on rubber.**
- A. True**
 - B. False**
 - C. Only with non-slip mats**
 - D. Not specified**
- 7. What determines the size of the blocking when blocking under the rigging pads are required?**
- A. The height of the load**
 - B. Ground bearing capacity and ground bearing pressure generated by the crane**
 - C. The color of the crane**
 - D. Wind speed**
- 8. When blocking is needed under outriggers, what determines the size of the block?**
- A. Ground bearing pressure generated by crane**
 - B. Crane weight**
 - C. Operator experience**
 - D. Weather conditions**
- 9. What section of the crane is required to be barricaded?**
- A. Swing radius of the outer most body**
 - B. The operator cab**
 - C. The boom tip**
 - D. The counterweight area**
- 10. All of the following are reasons for stopping personnel lift operations except?**
- A. there are no tag lines**
 - B. bad weather**
 - C. electrical hazards**
 - D. ground instability**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. OSHA requires clearance of _____ when voltage is unknown over 350 kV.
- A. 40 ft
 - B. 50 ft**
 - C. 60 ft
 - D. 70 ft

When voltage is unknown, you must treat the situation with the highest level of precaution and keep a conservative distance from all exposed energized parts. Air can conduct electricity if the voltage is high enough, so the safer approach is to apply the larger clearance associated with voltages over 350 kV. That conservative buffer—fifty feet—helps prevent arcing or contact if the actual voltage turns out to be higher than anticipated. In crane and heavy equipment work, this means establishing and maintaining a clear exclusion zone of fifty feet from any exposed energized parts until voltage is verified and the area is declared safe.

2. What should an operator do if he is worried about the safety of the operation of the crane?
- A. Stop operations, start only when safety issue is cleared up**
 - B. Continue with caution
 - C. Lower the load and continue
 - D. Increase speed to complete task

Safety must come first. If an operator is worried about the safety of the crane operation, the correct move is to stop work and only resume once the safety issue is resolved. This avoids putting people or equipment at risk and gives a chance to address the problem properly. In practice, that means shutting down the crane, securing the load, keeping the area clear, and reporting the concern to a supervisor or qualified person who can inspect and correct the issue before work continues. Trying to proceed with caution doesn't remove the risk, and lowering the load or increasing speed can still expose everyone to danger.

3. Which action helps ensure safe signaling before moving a load over a new path?
- A. Sound the horn**
 - B. Engage the emergency brake
 - C. Increase load line tension
 - D. Brief the crew in the cab

Audible signaling before moving a load is essential for safety. Sounding the horn serves as a clear, immediate warning to everyone in the vicinity that the crane will start moving along a new path, giving ground personnel time to clear the area and avoid the load's swing or travel path. The other options don't provide that broad warning: engaging the emergency brake would stop the crane but won't alert workers; increasing load line tension is a mechanical adjustment and doesn't communicate movement; briefing the crew in the cab helps the operators but doesn't reach people outside the cab who need to know the plan.

4. Whose guidance should be consulted for wind-related operating conditions?

- A. Crane manufacturers**
- B. Weather service**
- C. Local regulations**
- D. Company policy**

Wind-related operating limits come from the crane's own design and the exact specifications provided by the manufacturer. The manual for each crane model includes the maximum wind speed at which lifting is considered safe, along with how factors like load, boom angle, radius, and outriggers affect stability. Because these limits are specific to the crane's configuration, the manufacturer is the most reliable source for determining safe operating conditions in wind. While weather service information is essential for planning and detecting hazardous conditions, it does not define the crane's allowable wind limits. Local regulations and company policy may enforce procedures or thresholds, but they must align with the manufacturer's ratings. So, consulting the crane manufacturer ensures you have the correct, model-specific wind limits for safe operation.

5. When is it allowed to hoist personnel?

- A. When there is no less hazardous way of performing job**
- B. Any time**
- C. Only with a permit**
- D. Never**

Lifting workers with a crane is a high-risk operation and should only be used when there is no safer way to get the job done. The idea is to minimize exposure to fall, swing, and load hazards by preferring safer methods first, such as scaffolding, an elevating work platform, or other access methods. If hoisting people is truly unavoidable, it must be planned and controlled: the task should have a formal plan (often with a permit), trained personnel operate and supervise the lift, and appropriate safety measures (rigging, fall protection, exclusion zones, and clear signaling) are in place. That's why this option is the best answer—the operation is allowed only when no less hazardous method exists. The other choices oversimplify or ignore the risk: lifting anyone any time is unsafe, requiring a permit alone doesn't address the need to first rule out safer methods, and never is not accurate because there are acceptable, well-controlled situations where it may be necessary.

6. Lifting personnel is not allowed on rubber.

- A. True**
- B. False**
- C. Only with non-slip mats**
- D. Not specified**

The main idea here is that lifting people with a crane must use a proper, rated personnel lifting device, not a makeshift surface. Lifting personnel on a rubber surface isn't allowed because rubber can deform, slip, or bounce under dynamic crane loads, making the worker insecure and increasing the risk of a fall. A certified man basket or other approved personnel lifting platform—with guardrails, tie-off points, and appropriate fall protection—must be used, along with trained operators and a defined lifting plan. Simply adding non-slip mats doesn't address the fundamental safety requirement, and options like "not specified" ignore the established rule that personnel lifting requires approved equipment.

7. What determines the size of the blocking when blocking under the rigging pads are required?

- A. The height of the load**
- B. Ground bearing capacity and ground bearing pressure generated by the crane**
- C. The color of the crane**
- D. Wind speed**

Blocking size is determined by how much pressure the ground can safely bear and the load transmitted by the crane through the pads. The goal is to keep the bearing pressure under the soil's allowable limit, so the ground doesn't fail or settle excessively. So you size the blocking by dividing the total vertical load on the pads by the ground's allowable bearing pressure (including safety factors), which tells you the minimum contact area needed. The higher the soil bearing capacity, or the larger the area you provide, the smaller the required blocking. If soil capacity is low, you need larger blocking to spread the load. Other factors like the height of the load or the crane's color don't determine the blocking size. Wind can affect overall stability, but the basic blocking size comes from the load on the pads and the ground's bearing capacity. For example, a total through-pad load of 400 kN with soil that can safely bear 200 kPa requires at least 2 m² of blocking area (before applying safety factors). In practice you'd pick blocking that provides that footprint with a suitable safety margin.

8. When blocking is needed under outriggers, what determines the size of the block?

- A. Ground bearing pressure generated by crane**
- B. Crane weight**
- C. Operator experience**
- D. Weather conditions**

Blocking under outriggers is about keeping the ground reaction within what the soil can safely bear. The size of the block is chosen so the pressure on the ground under each outrigger does not exceed the soil's allowable bearing capacity. In practice, you determine the needed block area by dividing the load borne by the outrigger by the ground's allowable bearing pressure. So heavier loading or weaker ground means you need larger blocks; stronger ground or a wider outrigger spread reduces the required size. Weather can affect soil strength and may push you to use larger mats, but the determining factor for block size is the ground bearing pressure generated by the crane. Example: if each outrigger carries 20,000 lb and the soil can safely bear 2,000 psf, you'd need about 10 ft² of block area per outrigger.

9. What section of the crane is required to be barricaded?

- A. Swing radius of the outer most body**
- B. The operator cab**
- C. The boom tip**
- D. The counterweight area**

Barricading the area around where the crane can rotate and move its load is essential. The swing radius defines the space the crane's outer parts and any attached load can reach as the boom turns. If someone enters that area while the crane is lifting or rotating, they can be struck by the load or by moving components, which is a major safety risk. Keeping that zone blocked off creates a clear exclusion area so workers aren't exposed to unpredictable motion. The operator cab is the control space and is kept accessible to the operator during operation, not barricaded as a general rule. The boom tip moves within the swing radius, so it's already covered by barricading the broader zone. The counterweight area is hazardous, but standard practice emphasizes guarding the crane's rotating reach to prevent entry during operation.

10. All of the following are reasons for stopping personnel lift operations except?

A. there are no tag lines

B. bad weather

C. electrical hazards

D. ground instability

The main idea is recognizing hazards that require stopping a personnel lift to protect workers. Bad weather can create dangerous wind, rain, or lightning conditions that affect stability and control. Electrical hazards pose a direct risk of electrocution if the lift comes too close to energized lines. Ground instability can compromise the platform's foundation and lead to tipping or failure. The absence of tag lines does not by itself create an immediate safety risk for a personnel lift; tag lines are associated with controlling loads on other types of equipment and aren't a standard trigger to stop MEWP operations. So, the condition that is not a valid reason to stop is the lack of tag lines.

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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://introtomobilecranes.examzify.com>

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

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