

JOURNEYMAN PLUMBER PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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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. Joints between cast iron and brass pipe shall NOT be made up of which type of joint?**
 - A. A welded joint
 - B. A threaded joint
 - C. A flanged joint
 - D. A soldered joint
- 2. What is the minimum size trap required for a water fountain?**
 - A. 1 inch
 - B. 1 1/4 inches
 - C. 1 1/2 inches
 - D. 2 inches
- 3. What device is a test plug installed on the inside of the pipe end called?**
 - A. Pipe Cap
 - B. Pipe Plug
 - C. Test Tee
 - D. Drain Plug
- 4. How high will 1 PSI support a column of water?**
 - A. 2.31 ft high
 - B. 3.5 ft high
 - C. 1.75 ft high
 - D. 4.0 ft high
- 5. What type of valve uses direct water pressure to supply a fixed quantity of water for flushing devices?**
 - A. Ball Valve
 - B. Gate Valve
 - C. Flushometer
 - D. Check Valve

- 6. What is a loop vent designed to serve?**
- A. Only a single fixture in the basement
 - B. A vent that serves two or more floor outlet fixtures that are battery wasted
 - C. To connect to external venting systems
 - D. A high-capacity vent for restaurants
- 7. If a plumber bought a gross of faucets and installs all but 40, what percent of faucets did he use?**
- A. 50%
 - B. 72%
 - C. 64%
 - D. 28%
- 8. What is the required cleanout distance for pipes larger than 4 inches in diameter?**
- A. 50 feet
 - B. 65 feet
 - C. 75 feet
 - D. 100 feet
- 9. What is the formula for calculating BTU?**
- A. Gallons x 8.33lbs x Degree Rise
 - B. Liters x 9.81lbs x Temperature Change
 - C. Gallons x 7.85lbs x Temperature Change
 - D. Cubic feet x 62.4lbs x Degree Rise
- 10. What is a Yoke Vent and how is it determined?**
- A. It's based on the size of the trap and installed every 5 floors.
 - B. It's based on the main vent stack size and installed every 10 floors.
 - C. It's a vent designed for horizontal drainage only.
 - D. It's a special vent for roof drainage systems.

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Joints between cast iron and brass pipe shall NOT be made up of which type of joint?

- A. A welded joint**
- B. A threaded joint
- C. A flanged joint
- D. A soldered joint

The correct choice is a welded joint because cast iron and brass are dissimilar metals, and welding typically requires the metals being joined to have similar properties and melting points. When attempting to weld cast iron to brass, the significant differences in thermal expansion and the melting characteristics can lead to joint failure or cracking. In contrast, threaded joints are commonly used to connect various types of piping, including cast iron and brass, utilizing compatible threads for a secure connection. Flanged joints allow for easy assembly and disassembly, enabling a solid connection between the two materials without the issues associated with welding. Soldered joints, while more common with metals like copper, can work in specific situations where both materials are suitable for soldering, but they are typically avoided for cast iron due to its brittleness. Therefore, welded joints are inappropriate for joining cast iron and brass because they are not designed for the compatibility of those two materials.

2. What is the minimum size trap required for a water fountain?

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

The minimum size trap required for a water fountain being 1 1/4 inches aligns with plumbing standards that ensure adequate drainage and prevent issues such as clogs and backups. Water fountains, which are categorized as fixtures within plumbing systems, require traps that can handle the expected flow rate of water, including any intermittently higher surges when the fountain is in use. Choosing a 1 1/4 inch trap is typically sufficient for the drainage needs of a water fountain as it balances capacity with the practical dimensions that can be accommodated in most installations. Traps function to retain water, creating a seal that prevents gases from the sewer system from entering the occupied spaces, therefore the right size ensures a proper seal while allowing adequate flow. Larger traps, such as those measuring 1 1/2 inches or 2 inches, while effective, may be unnecessary for a water fountain as they can lead to more complicated installations and higher material costs without providing significant benefits in most cases. The 1 inch option tends to be insufficient because it may not adequately support the fixture's drainage requirements, leading to performance issues. Thus, 1 1/4 inches is the optimal choice for ensuring functionality and compliance with plumbing codes.

3. What device is a test plug installed on the inside of the pipe end called?

- A. Pipe Cap
- B. Pipe Plug**
- C. Test Tee
- D. Drain Plug

The device that is installed on the inside of the pipe end is known as a pipe plug. A pipe plug is specifically designed to temporarily seal the end of a pipe, allowing for testing or maintenance without the need to disconnect or remove the entire section of piping. When testing drainage systems, for example, a pipe plug serves to hold water in the pipeline, enabling a plumber to pressurize the system and check for leaks or blockages. Using this device helps ensure that the test can be conducted effectively and provides a reliable means to monitor the system's integrity. Other options, while related to plumbing, refer to different components. A pipe cap is typically used on the outside of the pipe end to seal it off permanently, a test tee refers to a fitting designed to allow access for testing while remaining part of the system, and a drain plug is often used to allow for drainage from a system rather than to seal it. The pipe plug is distinct in its function for testing purposes.

4. How high will 1 PSI support a column of water?

- A. 2.31 ft high**
- B. 3.5 ft high
- C. 1.75 ft high
- D. 4.0 ft high

1 PSI can support a column of water up to approximately 2.31 feet high due to the relationship between pressure and the height of a liquid column. This relationship is dictated by the formula that correlates pressure, height, and the density of the liquid being considered. For water, the weight of a column of water is proportional to its height, with the density of water being about 62.4 pounds per cubic foot. When the pressure is measured in PSI, it translates to how much weight is held over an area. Specifically, 1 PSI is equivalent to the weight of a column of water that exerts that much pressure over a square inch at the base. Using the conversion factor derived from basic fluid mechanics, one can establish that 1 PSI can indeed support about 2.31 feet of water (which can be derived from dividing the pressure by the weight density of water). Therefore, this relationship is a critical concept in plumbing, especially when considering how different pressures can influence systems involving water.

5. What type of valve uses direct water pressure to supply a fixed quantity of water for flushing devices?

- A. Ball Valve
- B. Gate Valve
- C. Flushometer**
- D. Check Valve

The correct choice is a flushometer because this type of valve is specifically designed to allow a fixed quantity of water to be released for flushing toilets or urinals. It operates utilizing direct water pressure, which means that the flow of water is controlled through hydraulic mechanisms. When a user activates the flushometer, it opens to release a predetermined volume of water rapidly to ensure a thorough flush. Flushometers are commonly found in commercial settings due to their efficiency and effectiveness in water usage, making them a popular choice for high-traffic restrooms. They help minimize the amount of water used per flush, thereby contributing to water conservation efforts. In contrast, ball valves and gate valves are more general-purpose valves used to control the flow of water in piping systems but do not have the specific function of providing a fixed volume of water for flushing. Ball valves use a spherical disc to control flow, while gate valves operate by raising or lowering a gate to start or stop water flow. Check valves also serve a different purpose; they are designed to allow fluid to flow in one direction only, preventing backflow in plumbing systems. They do not regulate the quantity of water delivered for flushing purposes. Thus, the unique functionality of the flushometer in providing a set volume of water under pressure

6. What is a loop vent designed to serve?

- A. Only a single fixture in the basement
- B. A vent that serves two or more floor outlet fixtures that are battery wasted**
- C. To connect to external venting systems
- D. A high-capacity vent for restaurants

A loop vent is specifically designed to serve multiple floor outlet fixtures that are close together, often in a layout where space constraints or particular plumbing configurations necessitate such a system. The primary function of a loop vent is to ensure that two or more fixtures can share a vent without the need for extensive piping, which helps improve drainage performance and maintain proper air pressure within the drainage system. This is particularly useful when fixtures are located on the same floor or level, allowing the vent to efficiently serve both without the need for separate vent stacks. Loop vents provide both necessary ventilation to the drainage system and help prevent issues such as siphoning, where one fixture can disrupt the flow of another due to pressure differences. The other options do not correctly describe the purpose of a loop vent. For example, serving only a single fixture or being designed specifically for high-capacity needs, such as in restaurants, does not align with the loop vent's application. Similarly, connecting to external venting systems is not the function of a loop vent, as they are more concerned with venting multiple fixtures on the same level rather than external configurations.

7. If a plumber bought a gross of faucets and installs all but 40, what percent of faucets did he use?

- A. 50%
- B. 72%**
- C. 64%
- D. 28%

To find the percentage of faucets that were used, start by understanding what "a gross" means. A gross is equal to 144 units. In this situation, if the plumber installs all but 40 faucets, it means he did not install 40 out of the total 144 faucets. To find out how many faucets were actually installed, subtract 40 from 144: $144 - 40 = 104$ faucets installed. Next, to calculate the percentage of faucets used, divide the number of faucets installed (104) by the total number of faucets (144) and then multiply by 100 to convert it into a percentage: $(104 / 144) \times 100 = 72.22\%$. When rounded to the nearest whole number, this gives you approximately 72%. Therefore, the plumber used about 72% of the faucets he bought. This calculation clarifies why this answer represents the proportion of faucets that were actually utilized.

8. What is the required cleanout distance for pipes larger than 4 inches in diameter?

- A. 50 feet
- B. 65 feet
- C. 75 feet
- D. 100 feet**

For pipes larger than 4 inches in diameter, the required cleanout distance is determined by plumbing codes to ensure that the drainage system can be effectively maintained and cleared of obstructions. The standard for these larger pipes indicates that a cleanout should be installed every 100 feet. This regulation helps to facilitate the maintenance and cleaning processes, allowing access to the plumbing system for rodding or other necessary methods to clear clogs. The 100-foot requirement stems from the need to provide reasonable access points for maintenance along long runs of larger diameter piping, which are common in commercial and industrial settings. Cleanouts placed at this interval ensure that any potential blockages can be addressed in a timely and efficient manner, thus preserving the function and efficacy of the plumbing system.

9. What is the formula for calculating BTU?

- A. Gallons x 8.33lbs x Degree Rise
- B. Liters x 9.81lbs x Temperature Change
- C. Gallons x 7.85lbs x Temperature Change
- D. Cubic feet x 62.4lbs x Degree Rise

The formula for calculating BTU (British Thermal Unit) in the context of heating water is represented as gallons of water multiplied by the weight of water per gallon (which is approximately 8.33 pounds) and the temperature rise (degree rise) required to achieve the desired temperature change. This approach is based on the specific heat capacity of water, which indicates that 1 BTU is the amount of heat required to raise the temperature of 1 pound of water by 1 degree Fahrenheit. When heating a certain number of gallons of water, you first need to calculate the total weight of that water by multiplying the volume in gallons by 8.33 pounds. Then, to find the total energy (in BTUs) required to raise the temperature of that water, you multiply this weight by the desired temperature rise in degrees. This relationship helps in a variety of plumbing and HVAC calculations involving water heating systems. In contrast, other options may use incorrect constants for the weight of water or may include incorrect units or conversions, thus leading to inaccurate calculations for BTU. Understanding this formula is crucial for professionals working in plumbing, heating, and cooling to correctly size systems and ensure they are efficient and effective.

10. What is a Yoke Vent and how is it determined?

- A. It's based on the size of the trap and installed every 5 floors.
- B. It's based on the main vent stack size and installed every 10 floors.
- C. It's a vent designed for horizontal drainage only.
- D. It's a special vent for roof drainage systems.

A Yoke Vent is a specific type of venting system used in plumbing to ensure proper air circulation and prevent the siphoning of water in drain systems. The determination of a Yoke Vent is primarily based on the size of the main vent stack. This type of vent is typically installed at specific intervals, which is often every 10 floors in tall buildings, to maintain the effectiveness of the venting system and ensure that air can adequately enter the drainage system. The function of the Yoke Vent is to provide a means for air to enter the drainage system above the highest trap and below the building's venting systems. This setup helps to avoid negative pressure that could lead to slow drainage or trap siphoning. Therefore, proper installation according to the main vent stack size is critical for the functionality of the plumbing system in multi-story buildings.

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://journeymanplumber.examzify.com>

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

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