

Lock and Key Systems (PY104.16) 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. What is a disadvantage to using a master key system?**
 - A. Increases security risk if the master key is exposed**
 - B. Requires specialized maintenance routines**
 - C. The cost to re-key all of the locks in the system**
 - D. Adds unnecessary complexity to access control**

- 2. Which person is NOT authorized to change a combination?**
 - A. A DoD security officer**
 - B. A building manager**
 - C. A maintenance technician**
 - D. A commercial locksmith**

- 3. Which lock is appropriate for a storage closet when you want to deter entry but not require high security?**
 - A. A built-in lock**
 - B. A high-security padlock**
 - C. A digital keypad lock**
 - D. A magnetic lock**

- 4. Which statement about combination locks is true?**
 - A. A combination lock is only portable.**
 - B. A combination lock cannot be a built-in lock.**
 - C. A combination lock can be a built-in lock or a padlock.**
 - D. A combination lock is always digital.**

- 5. Which lock is described as electromechanical and suitable for built-in combination lock applications?**
 - A. S&G 2740B electromechanical lock**
 - B. Mechanical cam lock**
 - C. Rotary combination**
 - D. Magnetic stripe lock**

- 6. When assigning the life safety aspect of a locking solution, which must be considered?**
- A. Aesthetics of the door**
 - B. Color of the door**
 - C. Size of the lock**
 - D. Emergency exit from a locked door**
- 7. Which lock is designed for use on vaults and doors?**
- A. X-10 lock**
 - B. CDX-10 lock**
 - C. S&G 8077/AD padlock**
 - D. Electromechanical lock**
- 8. Which is the purpose of a lock's switching device?**
- A. To secure the lock with a tamper seal**
 - B. To authorize the locking device to open**
 - C. To indicate the lock is engaged**
 - D. To reset the combination**
- 9. Which regulation/specifications do S&G 8077/AD combination padlocks comply with?**
- A. Underwriters Laboratories UL 437**
 - B. Federal Specification FF-P-110**
 - C. ANSI Z87**
 - D. ISO 9001**
- 10. Combination locks can be either mechanical or electromechanical built-in locks or portable padlocks.**
- A. True**
 - B. False**
 - C. Only built-in locks**
 - D. Only portable padlocks**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is a disadvantage to using a master key system?

- A. Increases security risk if the master key is exposed
- B. Requires specialized maintenance routines
- C. The cost to re-key all of the locks in the system**
- D. Adds unnecessary complexity to access control

Master key systems trade convenience for cost. They let one key operate many locks, reducing the number of keys you have to manage, but when access needs to change or a key is lost, you don't just rekey a single lock—you often have to rekey every lock in the affected portion of the system to invalidate old keys and preserve the hierarchy. That re-keying work across many locks adds up in labor, time, and materials, making it a substantial disadvantage of this approach. While a compromised master key is a real security risk and maintenance can be more involved than for a simple system, the most immediate, tangible downside highlighted here is the cost and effort required to re-key all the locks in the system.

2. Which person is NOT authorized to change a combination?

- A. A DoD security officer
- B. A building manager
- C. A maintenance technician
- D. A commercial locksmith**

The key idea is who is allowed to modify access controls like a lock combination. Changes to a combination must be performed by individuals who are officially authorized, can verify the requester, and keep a proper record of the change. A DoD security officer, a building manager, and a maintenance technician are typically part of the internal team with established procedures for approving and documenting such changes, ensuring accountability and an auditable trail. A commercial locksmith, while skilled, is an external party. Without a formal, documented authorization process and proper oversight, granting them power to change a facility's combination could create security gaps and bypass internal controls. Therefore, the person not authorized to change a combination is the commercial locksmith.

3. Which lock is appropriate for a storage closet when you want to deter entry but not require high security?

- A. A built-in lock**
- B. A high-security padlock
- C. A digital keypad lock
- D. A magnetic lock

A simple, integrated mechanism that is built into the door or cabinet provides the right balance for a storage closet: it deters casual entry without adding the complexity or cost of high-security systems. A built-in lock is easy to install, reliable, and sufficient to discourage unwanted access while remaining inexpensive and low-maintenance. In contrast, a high-security padlock is more protection than needed for a closet, a digital keypad lock introduces electronics and code management, and a magnetic lock depends on power and access control infrastructure, which isn't necessary for this scenario.

4. Which statement about combination locks is true?

- A. A combination lock is only portable.**
- B. A combination lock cannot be a built-in lock.**
- C. A combination lock can be a built-in lock or a padlock.**
- D. A combination lock is always digital.**

Combination locks come in different forms, so they aren't limited to one style. A lock that uses a sequence of numbers or symbols can be implemented as a padlock you carry or as a built-in lock integrated into a door, safe, or piece of luggage. That versatility is why the statement that a combination lock can be a built-in lock or a padlock is true. It captures the idea that these locks aren't restricted to a single form. It's not just portable, since built-in versions exist. And it isn't necessarily digital, because many combination locks are mechanical dial or lever types.

5. Which lock is described as electromechanical and suitable for built-in combination lock applications?

- A. S&G 2740B electromechanical lock**
- B. Mechanical cam lock**
- C. Rotary combination**
- D. Magnetic stripe lock**

Electromechanical locks blend electronic control with a physical locking bolt, allowing electronic input to actuate a mechanical mechanism. This combination is ideal for built-in combination lock applications because you get the reliability of a solid mechanical lock plus the convenience and control of electronic access. The S&G 2740B is a well-known example of this type, specifically designed for built-in combination lock use. It integrates electronic input with a mechanical locking element, making it suitable for installations where the lock needs to be embedded into equipment or enclosures and operated by an electronic or coded input. Purely mechanical cam locks lack any electronic components, so they aren't electromechanical. Rotary combination locks are typically mechanical dial-based devices, not electromechanical in the sense of combining electronic control with a bolt. Magnetic stripe locks rely on card credentials and are electronic, but they aren't described as built-in combination locks in the same sense as an electromechanical lock designed for embedded, combination-entry applications.

6. When assigning the life safety aspect of a locking solution, which must be considered?

- A. Aesthetics of the door**
- B. Color of the door**
- C. Size of the lock**
- D. Emergency exit from a locked door**

Life safety in locking solutions centers on ensuring occupants can exit safely during an emergency. The key is that a door must not block or hinder egress when it's needed most. Therefore, the locking setup must allow an emergency exit from a door that could otherwise be locked—through interior release, fail-safe operation on power loss, or integration with panic hardware so people can quickly open and leave. Aesthetics, color, and the size of the lock don't directly impact the ability to escape in an emergency, even though they might affect appearance or fit. In short, the critical requirement is that the door remains operable for safe egress when required.

7. Which lock is designed for use on vaults and doors?

- A. X-10 lock
- B. CDX-10 lock**
- C. S&G 8077/AD padlock
- D. Electromechanical lock

Vaults and doors require locks built for high security and reliable integration with vault systems. The CDX-10 is a model designed specifically for that dual role, offering the sturdy construction and precise integration needed for securing vaults as well as their doors. This type of lock is built to handle the demanding environments of vault rooms, where tamper resistance and dependable operation are critical, not just everyday door security. Other options include a padlock, which is portable and not typically used to secure a vault door as part of the door assembly, or a general electromechanical lock, which may be used on standard doors but isn't tailored to vault systems. The X-10 product line and similar non-vault-specific devices don't provide the same level of vault- and door-focused design. So, the model crafted for vaults and doors is the CDX-10.

8. Which is the purpose of a lock's switching device?

- A. To secure the lock with a tamper seal
- B. To authorize the locking device to open**
- C. To indicate the lock is engaged
- D. To reset the combination

The switching device acts as the control element that enables the lock to release when the correct input is provided. It serves as the bridge between the user's action (like presenting the right key or entering the right combination) and the unlocking mechanism, turning an authorized signal into the actual release of the bolt. This means the lock opens only after proper authorization is detected. The other features described—tamper seals, indicators showing the lock's state, or the ability to reset the combination—are separate functions and not the role of the switching device itself.

9. Which regulation/specifications do S&G 8077/AD combination padlocks comply with?

- A. Underwriters Laboratories UL 437
- B. Federal Specification FF-P-110**
- C. ANSI Z87
- D. ISO 9001

The key idea here is that government procurement of padlocks often relies on a federal specification that defines the required performance and testing for combination padlocks used on government property. S&G 8077/AD is designed to meet those federal criteria, so it is described as complying with FF-P-110. That specification covers things like tamper resistance, durability, and how the combination mechanism must perform under test conditions, which is why this padlock is associated with FF-P-110. The other standards aren't the governing requirements for federal uses: UL 437 is a safety certification path many commercial padlocks pursue, ANSI Z87 pertains to eye protection, and ISO 9001 is about quality management systems rather than specific lock performance. Thus, FF-P-110 is the relevant specification for government-compliant combination padlocks like the S&G 8077/AD.

10. Combination locks can be either mechanical or electromechanical built-in locks or portable padlocks.

A. True

B. False

C. Only built-in locks

D. Only portable padlocks

Combination locks are defined by two aspects: the mechanism (mechanical vs. electromechanical) and the form factor (built-in vs. portable padlock). You can have a mechanical combination lock or an electromechanical one, and each can be designed as a built-in lock or as a portable padlock. This means the statement is accurate: combination locks can be either mechanical or electromechanical and can be built-in or portable. The practical takeaway is that all four combinations exist, so no single form factor or mechanism type is exclusive.

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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://lockandkeysys.examzify.com>

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

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