

# Machine Gun Employment Fundamentals Practice Test (Sample)

## Study Guide



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

**This is a sample study guide. To access the full version with hundreds of 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. Don't worry about getting everything right, 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, and take breaks to retain information better.**

## 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.**

## 7. Use Other Tools

**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!**

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## **Questions**

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- 1. What ensures maximum effectiveness when employing grazing fire?**
  - A. Higher elevation of the firing position**
  - B. The close proximity to the target**
  - C. Aiming at fast-moving targets**
  - D. Using a wider cone of fire**
  
- 2. What does the acronym PICMDEEP stand for in machine gun employment principles?**
  - A. Pairs, Interlocking, Coordinating, Mutual Support**
  - B. Defilade, Enfilading Fire, Economy of Fire, Protection**
  - C. All of the above**
  - D. None of the above**
  
- 3. Which form is employed to create a Range Card?**
  - A. DA Form 5012-R**
  - B. DA Form 5517-R**
  - C. DA Form 7248-C**
  - D. DA Form 2104-B**
  
- 4. What is the required width for a fighting position according to machine gun employment standards?**
  - A. One helmet wide**
  - B. Two helmets wide**
  - C. Three helmets wide**
  - D. Four helmets wide**
  
- 5. How many mils can the elevation scale of the M192 Tripod read up to?**
  - A. 400 mils**
  - B. 530 mils**
  - C. 600 mils**
  - D. 900 mils**

**6. What is a critical consideration when constructing machine gun positions?**

- A. Ease of access for supplies**
- B. Maximizing crew survivability**
- C. Aesthetic placement of weapons**
- D. Size and weight of the machine gun**

**7. What effect does rising terrain have on the beaten zone?**

- A. It expands the zone**
- B. It creates a small, similar pattern**
- C. It has no effect**
- D. It reverses the zone**

**8. What is the cone of fire in relation to machine gun firing?**

- A. The distance traveled by the bullet**
- B. The angle of elevation measured**
- C. The pattern of bullet paths**
- D. The speed of the gun firing**

**9. What is a key feature of interlocking fires?**

- A. Firing from different elevations**
- B. Providing mutual support between gun positions**
- C. Creating overlapping fields of fire**
- D. Focusing fire exclusively on a single target**

**10. What does Swinging Traverse refer to in fire delivery?**

- A. Targets with little change in elevation**
- B. Major changes in both elevation and direction**
- C. Targets requiring slight angle adjustments**
- D. Firing with a fixed aim**

## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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## 1. What ensures maximum effectiveness when employing grazing fire?

- A. Higher elevation of the firing position
- B. The close proximity to the target**
- C. Aiming at fast-moving targets
- D. Using a wider cone of fire

When employing grazing fire, the close proximity to the target is crucial for achieving maximum effectiveness. Grazing fire is designed to engage targets that are relatively flat to the ground, allowing the bullets to travel in a horizontal plane, striking the target before they have a chance to rise above the line of fire. This is particularly effective against enemy personnel or unprotected vehicles in the open. By maintaining a close distance to the target, the likelihood of hitting them increases because the rounds are less influenced by gravity and other external factors. This proximity also allows for greater control over the area being targeted, enabling the operator to manage the cone of fire effectively. In contrast, when the firing position is higher or the targets are moving quickly, the effectiveness of grazing fire diminishes, as the angle at which the rounds would strike becomes less favorable, potentially leading to misses. Utilizing a wider cone of fire or engaging higher elevation targets can complicate the situation further, as these elements can lead to less predictability in hitting the intended target. Thus, the strategy of staying close ensures that the fire remains effective and concentrated, achieving the intended combat objectives more efficiently.

## 2. What does the acronym PICMDEEP stand for in machine gun employment principles?

- A. Pairs, Interlocking, Coordinating, Mutual Support**
- B. Defilade, Enfilading Fire, Economy of Fire, Protection
- C. All of the above
- D. None of the above

The acronym PICMDEEP stands for a series of principles that guide effective machine gun employment on the battlefield. Specifically, it is an acronym representing the following concepts: - Pairs: Refers to the pairing of machine guns to create a more effective coverage and fire capability. - Interlocking: This principle involves positioning machine guns so their fields of fire overlap, creating a more comprehensive area of coverage and defense. - Coordinating: This focuses on the integration of machine gun fire with other units or weapon systems to enhance overall effectiveness. - Mutual Support: This emphasizes the importance of positioning machine guns in such a way that they can support each other, providing overlapping fire support and making it difficult for enemies to advance. Recognizing these principles is crucial for maximizing the operational capabilities of machine guns and ensuring that they are used effectively in combat scenarios. This understanding allows for the orchestrating of fire tactics that enhance survivability and effectiveness against opposing forces. The other options, while touching on elements relevant to machine gun tactics, do not capture the full breadth of the principles encapsulated by PICMDEEP.

### 3. Which form is employed to create a Range Card?

- A. DA Form 5012-R
- B. DA Form 5517-R**
- C. DA Form 7248-C
- D. DA Form 2104-B

The correct form used to create a Range Card is DA Form 5517-R. This form is specifically designed for the purpose of documenting and consolidating critical information about a unit's field of fire, target audience, and important terrain features within the area of operations. Range Cards are essential for coordinating effective machine gun employment, as they help to establish firing positions and ensure that all personnel have a clear understanding of their assigned coverage areas. Focus on the features of the DA Form 5517-R, which includes sections for identifying threats, distance markers, and angles of fire, facilitating effective communication among team members and enhancing overall situational awareness. This form is also important for planning and executing maneuvers in alignment with unit tactics. The other forms listed serve different purposes and are not directly related to the creation of Range Cards, making them unsuitable choices. Each form is tailored for specific operational contexts within military operations, but only DA Form 5517-R is designated for range data documentation.

### 4. What is the required width for a fighting position according to machine gun employment standards?

- A. One helmet wide
- B. Two helmets wide**
- C. Three helmets wide
- D. Four helmets wide

The correct answer, which indicates that the required width for a fighting position is two helmets wide, is based on the need for sufficient space to effectively operate machine guns while ensuring the safety of the crew. A width of two helmets allows for ample room to maneuver equipment and weapons, facilitates teamwork among crew members, and helps in maintaining a low profile when in a defensive position. This width allows operators to effectively engage targets while being suitably protected from enemy fire. A position too narrow could hinder movement and limit the ability to quickly respond to changing combat conditions, while a position that is too wide might lead to vulnerability or inefficiency in fire coverage. This balance is crucial in maintaining effectiveness in combat situations, adhering to the standards set for machine gun employment.

**5. How many mils can the elevation scale of the M192 Tripod read up to?**

- A. 400 mils**
- B. 530 mils**
- C. 600 mils**
- D. 900 mils**

The M192 Tripod's elevation scale can read up to 530 mils, which is a critical feature that allows for precise adjustments when aiming machine guns. Mils are units of angular measurement that facilitate the targeting of objects at varying distances and are especially useful in adjusting for range and elevation changes. Understanding the capability of the M192 Tripod to adjust up to 530 mils is essential for effective machine gun operations as it provides operators with the flexibility to engage targets at different ranges and under various operational conditions. This capability is pivotal for achieving accuracy and maintaining effective fire support on the battlefield.

**6. What is a critical consideration when constructing machine gun positions?**

- A. Ease of access for supplies**
- B. Maximizing crew survivability**
- C. Aesthetic placement of weapons**
- D. Size and weight of the machine gun**

Maximizing crew survivability is essential when constructing machine gun positions because the primary objective in any military engagement is to ensure the safety and effectiveness of personnel. A well-constructed position takes into account natural cover and concealment, minimizing exposure to enemy fire while providing the crew with a stable firing platform. This includes considerations such as terrain features, elevation, and the ability to quickly reposition if necessary. By prioritizing crew survivability, the machine gun position can enhance the overall effectiveness of the weapon system in combat. It allows gunners to maintain a tactical advantage while reducing the risk of casualties, which is vital for sustained operations and achieving mission objectives. Other factors, while important, are secondary to the primary goal of protecting the crew and ensuring they can operate the machine gun effectively in a safe manner.

## 7. What effect does rising terrain have on the beaten zone?

- A. It expands the zone
- B. It creates a small, similar pattern**
- C. It has no effect
- D. It reverses the zone

Rising terrain has a significant impact on the characteristics of the beaten zone, particularly by creating a small, similar pattern. The beaten zone refers to the area on the ground that is effectively covered by rounds fired from a machine gun, and its shape and pattern can vary significantly due to terrain features. When firing over rising terrain, the point of impact shifts due to the elevation change. As projectiles travel over hills or inclines, they tend to strike within a condensed area directly in front of the gun. This phenomenon occurs because the upward angle of fire alters the trajectory and results in a tighter grouping of impacts. The height gained reduces the overall distance covered, thereby creating a smaller, denser pattern of impacts compared to flat terrain. This understanding is crucial for effective machine gun placement and fire distribution in various combat scenarios, enabling operators to take advantage of terrain for better coverage and to adjust their aim for maximized effectiveness.

## 8. What is the cone of fire in relation to machine gun firing?

- A. The distance traveled by the bullet
- B. The angle of elevation measured
- C. The pattern of bullet paths**
- D. The speed of the gun firing

The cone of fire refers to the pattern of bullet paths that a machine gun creates when it is fired. When a machine gun is discharged, the bullets do not follow a perfectly straight trajectory due to various factors such as recoil and slight variations in aim caused by the gunner's control and the machine's operating mechanics. As a result, while the individual bullets might be aimed at a target, they will form a cone-shaped pattern in the air as they travel downrange. This concept is crucial in understanding how to effectively use a machine gun in combat situations since the cone of fire affects the area of impact on the target and the likelihood of hitting it. Gunners must be trained to consider this dispersion when engaging targets to ensure effective fire. In contrast, the other choices describe different elements related to machine gun firing but do not accurately define the cone of fire. For example, the distance traveled by the bullet refers to its range, and the angle of elevation implies the tactical positioning of the weapon rather than the resultant pattern of fire. The speed of the gun firing pertains to the rate of fire, which is also distinct from the concept of how bullets disperse upon exit from the barrel.

## 9. What is a key feature of interlocking fires?

- A. Firing from different elevations
- B. Providing mutual support between gun positions
- C. Creating overlapping fields of fire**
- D. Focusing fire exclusively on a single target

A key feature of interlocking fires is the creation of overlapping fields of fire. This concept is essential for ensuring that areas of the battlefield are effectively covered without gaps that could allow enemy forces to advance. When machine guns are positioned to create overlapping fields of fire, they can complement each other's coverage, providing a more lethal and coordinated defense. This strategy helps in maximizing firepower, minimizes blind spots, and increases the chances of inflicting damage on enemy troops entering the designated area. This overlapping configuration allows for high volume suppressive fire across multiple axes, thereby enhancing overall battlefield effectiveness. It also ensures mutual support; when one position is engaged, the other can cover or assist it, thus reinforcing the defense. This method not only aids in deterring enemy movement but also creates a collaborative defense that can adapt to dynamic battlefield conditions.

## 10. What does Swinging Traverse refer to in fire delivery?

- A. Targets with little change in elevation
- B. Major changes in both elevation and direction**
- C. Targets requiring slight angle adjustments
- D. Firing with a fixed aim

Swinging Traverse refers to a method used in fire delivery that involves managing significant changes in elevation and direction while aiming at a target. This technique is particularly vital when engaging moving targets or targets that are not in a straight line from the firing position. When operating in situations where the target may shift rapidly or requires a broad arc of fire, the shooter must adjust both the elevation and direction of the weapon, which the swinging traverse technique effectively facilitates. This approach allows the operator to keep the machine gun trained on the target as it moves, ensuring that effective suppressive fire or accurate engagement can be maintained throughout the movement. It is a versatile technique used in various tactical scenarios, especially in battlefield conditions where movement occurs frequently and rapidly. The other options are more about constrained movements or static firing scenarios, which do not reflect the full scope of what swinging traverse encompasses, thus emphasizing its unique necessity in dynamic situations.

# 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://machinegunemploymentfunda.examzify.com>**

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

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