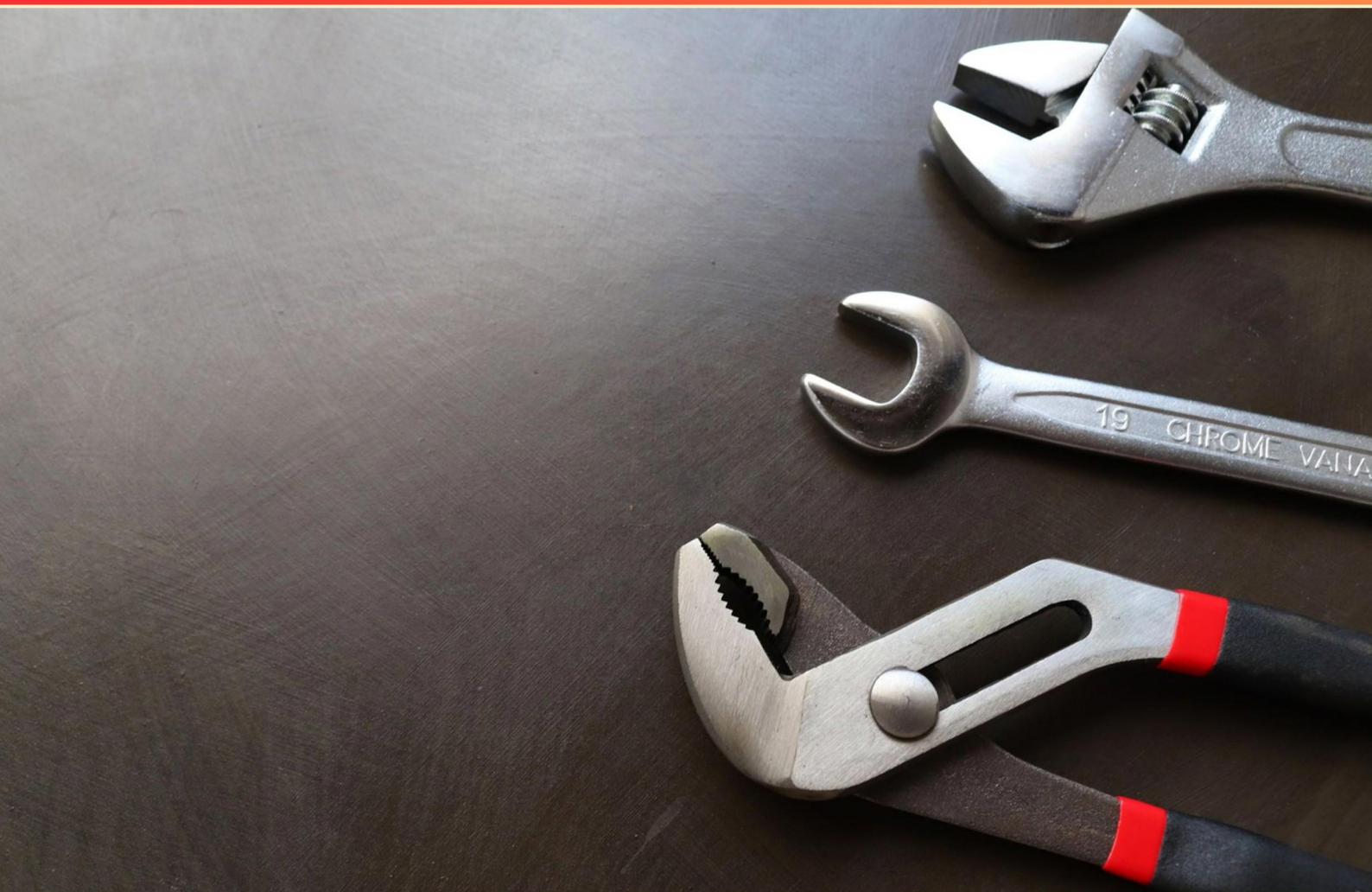


MASSACHUSETTS PLUMBERS JOURNEYMAN PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE) STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

VISIT US ONLINE FOR
THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

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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. Which of the following is prohibited as per the regulations governing fittings in plumbing?**
 - A. Use of straight T branch fittings in drainage
 - B. Use of running threads in a drainage system
 - C. Use of bands in a drainage system
 - D. Use of Sisson Joint fittings
- 2. What size drain should commercial food-waste grinder units be connected to?**
 - A. $\frac{3}{4}$ inches
 - B. One inch
 - C. One and a half inches
 - D. Two inches
- 3. What is the increase in vent diameter called, and how high below the roof surface should it occur?**
 - A. Connector, two feet
 - B. Adapter, three feet
 - C. Reducer, six inches
 - D. Increaser, one foot
- 4. How many single compartment sinks or lavatories can be connected to one trap?**
 - A. One
 - B. Two
 - C. Three
 - D. Four
- 5. Where should accessible cleanouts be installed concerning changes of direction in drainage systems?**
 - A. At every change of direction
 - B. At every 90-degree change of direction
 - C. At every 45-degree change of direction
 - D. At every 60-degree change of direction

- 6. How should all sumps and ejectors be protected against backflow and backpressure?**
- A. Backwater valve
 - B. Check valve
 - C. Pressure valve
 - D. Float valve
- 7. What size should the lettering on tags for non-potable water supply lines be according to the provided instructions?**
- A. 1/4 inches
 - B. 3/8 inches
 - C. 1/2 inches
 - D. 7/16 inches
- 8. What is the minimum clearance required around the base of hot water storage tanks for safe waste pans?**
- A. ½ inch
 - B. 1 inch
 - C. 1 ½ inches
 - D. 2 inches
- 9. How should potable water lines be identified as per the guidelines when tags are used?**
- A. Yellow triangle
 - B. Circle tags
 - C. Square stickers
 - D. Equilateral triangle tags
- 10. What is the stated maximum temperature allowed for water entering the drainage system as per the text?**
- A. 100 degrees
 - B. 130 degrees
 - C. 150 degrees
 - D. 170 degrees

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which of the following is prohibited as per the regulations governing fittings in plumbing?

- A. Use of straight T branch fittings in drainage**
- B. Use of running threads in a drainage system
- C. Use of bands in a drainage system
- D. Use of Sisson Joint fittings

The regulation prohibits the use of straight T branch fittings in drainage systems because they can lead to blockages and turbulence in the flow. A straight T fitting can create a situation where waste material does not flow as intended, increasing the chances of clogs forming at the connection. Instead, drainage systems typically require fittings that promote smoother directional changes, such as angled fittings that allow waste to flow more freely. The alternatives presented do not face the same prohibitions under plumbing codes. Running threads and bands can be used appropriately, provided they are part of a compliant system. Sisson Joint fittings, while less common, do not inherently violate plumbing regulations when used in proper contexts.

2. What size drain should commercial food-waste grinder units be connected to?

- A. $\frac{3}{4}$ inches
- B. One inch
- C. One and a half inches
- D. Two inches**

The correct connection size for commercial food-waste grinder units is typically two inches. This larger diameter is necessary to accommodate the high volume of waste generated by commercial food operations, ensuring that waste can flow freely without causing clogs or backflow issues. A two-inch drain provides sufficient capacity to handle the solid waste particles ground by the unit, minimizing the risk of drainage problems often associated with smaller drain sizes. Using a smaller drain size, such as those listed in other options, may lead to blockages and inefficient waste disposal. The design of commercial food-waste systems anticipates a significant influx of waste materials, which is why adhering to industry standards for drain size is critical for proper operation and longevity of the plumbing infrastructure.

3. What is the increase in vent diameter called, and how high below the roof surface should it occur?

- A. Connector, two feet
- B. Adapter, three feet
- C. Reducer, six inches
- D. Increaser, one foot**

The increase in vent diameter, which is crucial in plumbing systems to facilitate proper venting and maintain air pressure, is indeed referred to as an "increaser." This term accurately describes the fitting used to transition to a larger diameter vent pipe, ensuring that the venting system can adequately handle the volume of air needed to prevent trap siphoning and facilitate drainage. Furthermore, the requirement that this increase occur one foot below the roof surface aligns with plumbing codes that aim to prevent the potential for rainwater infiltration and frost accumulation, which could impede vent function. By establishing this distance, it ensures that the vent is both functional and compliant with safety standards. The other options present different fittings or measurements that do not align with the established standards for venting pipe installation, indicating a misunderstanding of the plumbing specifications defined in the Massachusetts Plumbing Code and good plumbing practices.

4. How many single compartment sinks or lavatories can be connected to one trap?

- A. One**
- B. Two
- C. Three
- D. Four

In plumbing systems, it is a requirement that a single compartment sink or lavatory is connected to a single trap to ensure proper waste disposal and prevent potential backflow or sewer gas leakage. The design of a trap is essential for maintaining the water seal that prevents harmful gases from entering living spaces. Each fixture must have its trap to allow for effective drainage and to ensure that each sink or lavatory operates independently, without interference from other fixtures. Connecting more than one sink or lavatory to a single trap can cause issues such as inefficient drainage, increased risk of clogs, and potential cross-contamination of waste between fixtures. This is why plumbing codes specifically dictate that each single compartment sink or lavatory should have its own trap, placing emphasis on maintaining the integrity of the plumbing system and ensuring sanitation.

5. Where should accessible cleanouts be installed concerning changes of direction in drainage systems?

- A. At every change of direction**
- B. At every 90-degree change of direction
- C. At every 45-degree change of direction
- D. At every 60-degree change of direction

The installation of accessible cleanouts at every change of direction in drainage systems is essential for ensuring proper maintenance and cleaning access. Cleanouts facilitate the removal of blockages and provide a means for inspection and maintenance of sewer and drainage lines without needing to excavate or dismantle significant portions of the system. By placing cleanouts at every change in direction, whether it is a sharp bend, a gradual curve, or any angle, it ensures that there are multiple access points to the drainage system. This approach minimizes the risk of clogs and makes it easier for plumbers to address issues efficiently. It also adheres to best practices and plumbing codes, which often mandate accessibility for easy maintenance in drainage systems.

6. How should all sumps and ejectors be protected against backflow and backpressure?

- A. Backwater valve
- B. Check valve**
- C. Pressure valve
- D. Float valve

The correct choice is a check valve, which plays a crucial role in preventing backflow and backpressure in systems that include sump pumps and ejectors. A check valve allows fluid to flow in one direction only, ensuring that when the pump is not active, wastewater or water does not flow back into the sump or ejector pit. This is particularly important in drainage systems where the risk of backflow can lead to flooding or contamination, thereby protecting the integrity of the plumbing system and maintaining health and safety standards. Other options such as a backwater valve can also control backflow but are primarily designed for use in sewer systems to prevent sewage from entering a building. Pressure valves serve different functions typically related to regulating system pressure rather than preventing backflow, while float valves are commonly used for maintaining water levels in tanks rather than being a mechanism for backflow prevention. Therefore, the check valve is the most appropriate and effective choice for protecting sumps and ejectors against backflow and backpressure.

7. What size should the lettering on tags for non-potable water supply lines be according to the provided instructions?

- A. 1/4 inches
- B. 3/8 inches
- C. 1/2 inches
- D. 7/16 inches**

The correct size for the lettering on tags for non-potable water supply lines is specified to be 7/16 inches. This size is determined to ensure that the information is legible and easily identifiable, which is crucial for safety and compliance in plumbing systems. Properly sized lettering can help prevent confusion and misuse of non-potable water supply lines, which can have critical implications for health and safety. Ensuring that the tags are marked appropriately allows for better communication of the nature of the water supply, ultimately supporting best practices in plumbing installations.

8. What is the minimum clearance required around the base of hot water storage tanks for safe waste pans?

- A. ½ inch
- B. 1 inch
- C. 1 ½ inches
- D. 2 inches**

The minimum clearance required around the base of hot water storage tanks, specifically for safe waste pans, is typically set to prevent water from accumulating and allow for proper drainage. A clearance of 2 inches is recommended as it provides an adequate gap for any potential overflow from the tank or leaks, ensuring that the waste pan can effectively manage excess water without risk of overflowing or causing damage to surrounding areas. This clearance also aids in the ease of maintenance and accessibility to the tank, which can be vital during servicing or inspections. A larger clearance helps ensure that any maintenance work can be carried out safely and without obstruction. As safety regulations may vary, local codes should always be verified, but the 2-inch clearance is standard in many jurisdictions to promote safety and operational efficiency around plumbing appliances.

9. How should potable water lines be identified as per the guidelines when tags are used?

- A. Yellow triangle
- B. Circle tags
- C. Square stickers
- D. Equilateral triangle tags**

The correct identification for potable water lines is through the use of equilateral triangle tags. This method aligns with industry standards and best practices for marking pipes to ensure clarity and safety. Equilateral triangle tags are widely recognized and effectively communicate that the line contains drinking water, helping to prevent confusion with other types of pipelines, such as those carrying non-potable fluids. Such visual identification is crucial in avoiding cross-contamination and ensuring that individuals working on or around these pipes know exactly what type of substance the lines carry. This standardization is important not just for the safety of the plumbing systems but also for public health.

10. What is the stated maximum temperature allowed for water entering the drainage system as per the text?

- A. 100 degrees
- B. 130 degrees
- C. 150 degrees**
- D. 170 degrees

The correct answer regarding the maximum temperature allowed for water entering the drainage system is 150 degrees. This limit is established to prevent damage to the drainage pipes and the overall plumbing infrastructure, as excessively high temperatures can lead to warping, melting, or compromising the integrity of pipe materials. Keeping the water temperature at or below this specified limit ensures safe operation within the plumbing system, reducing the risk of thermal shock and prolonging the lifespan of the drainage components. Furthermore, maintaining appropriate temperatures is crucial for ensuring the efficiency and effectiveness of wastewater management and prevents potential issues such as steam buildup, which can lead to blockages or leaks.

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://massachusettsplumbers.examzify.com>

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

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