

Master Craftsman Shingle Applicators Manual 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. Which term describes a peaked saddle behind a chimney to deflect water around the chimney?**
 - A. Cricket**
 - B. Dormer**
 - C. Condensation**
 - D. Cutout**

- 2. Asphalt roofing cement is?**
 - A. A cement used for concrete foundations**
 - B. Asphalt roofing cement**
 - C. A sealant for windows**
 - D. A water-based paint**

- 3. Granules on asphalt roofing products are best described as which of the following?**
 - A. A decorative ceramic coating for the underside of shingles.**
 - B. A mineral additive used in cement.**
 - C. A type of sealant applied to roof seams.**
 - D. Ceramic-coated, colored crushed rock that is applied to the exposed surface of asphalt roofing products.**

- 4. Which term describes the surface installed over the framing members to which roofing is applied?**
 - A. Drip edge**
 - B. Cracking**
 - C. Deck**
 - D. Cap flashing**

- 5. What is algae discoloration?**
 - A. A type of roof discoloration caused by algae.**
 - B. A decorative pattern.**
 - C. A fungus unrelated to algae.**
 - D. A type of metal corrosion.**

- 6. Which term describes a horizontal row of shingles running the length of the roof?**
- A. Draft**
 - B. Expense**
 - C. Course**
 - D. Dormer**
- 7. In roofing terminology, what is the measured amount of roof surface exposed to weather after installation called, usually expressed in inches?**
- A. Downspout**
 - B. Eaves**
 - C. Exposure**
 - D. Drip edge**
- 8. In a closed-cut valley, what is true about the valley flashing?**
- A. The valley flashing is exposed.**
 - B. Shingles from both sides extend across the valley.**
 - C. One side is trimmed 2 inches from centerline.**
 - D. The valley flashing is not exposed.**
- 9. Which acronym stands for the Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers Association?**
- A. American Plywood Association**
 - B. Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers Association**
 - C. American Society for Testing and Materials**
 - D. Algae discoloration**
- 10. Which term describes the additional layer of roofing material at the eaves to help prevent damage from water back-up?**
- A. Downspout**
 - B. Felt**
 - C. Feathering strips**
 - D. Eaves flashing**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which term describes a peaked saddle behind a chimney to deflect water around the chimney?

A. Cricket

B. Dormer

C. Condensation

D. Cutout

A cricket is a small, peaked saddle built directly behind a chimney to divert water away from the chimney and down the roof. By creating a raised, sloped surface, it guides runoff to the sides rather than letting water pool at the base, which helps prevent leaks and ice damming. The other terms don't fit this purpose: a dormer is a projecting windowed addition, condensation is moisture buildup, and a cutout is simply an opening in the roof for venting or access.

2. Asphalt roofing cement is?

A. A cement used for concrete foundations

B. Asphalt roofing cement

C. A sealant for windows

D. A water-based paint

Asphalt roofing cement is a thick, flexible asphalt-based sealant used to waterproof and seal gaps, joints, and flashing on roof surfaces. It's applied to fill and seal openings or penetrations where water could seep in, such as around roof features that meet window openings. This makes it a sealant used in roofing work to prevent leaks around windows and other openings. It isn't the material for concrete foundations, and it isn't a paint. So describing it as a sealant for windows aligns with its role in sealing roof penetrations and transitions.

3. Granules on asphalt roofing products are best described as which of the following?

A. A decorative ceramic coating for the underside of shingles.

B. A mineral additive used in cement.

C. A type of sealant applied to roof seams.

D. Ceramic-coated, colored crushed rock that is applied to the exposed surface of asphalt roofing products.

Granules are the ceramic-coated, colored crushed rock that sits on the exposed surface of asphalt shingles. They act as a protective outer layer, shielding the asphalt from UV rays, weathering, and damage while also giving the shingles their color and texture. They also contribute to fire resistance and durability of the roof surface. They aren't a coating for the underside, a cement additive, or a sealant for seams, which is why those options don't fit. Over time, granules can wear off or be knocked loose, reducing UV protection and exposing more of the asphalt.

4. Which term describes the surface installed over the framing members to which roofing is applied?

- A. Drip edge**
- B. Cracking**
- C. Deck**
- D. Cap flashing**

The surface installed over the framing members to which roofing is applied is the roof deck. It serves as the structural base for the roof, providing a flat, solid surface (usually plywood or OSB) that the underlayment and shingles attach to. Drip edge is the metal strip placed at the edges to direct water away from the fascia, cap flashing is used to seal around roof penetrations and joints, and cracking refers to a defect in roofing material. So the deck is the correct term because it's specifically the base surface the roofing is built on.

5. What is algae discoloration?

- A. A type of roof discoloration caused by algae.**
- B. A decorative pattern.**
- C. A fungus unrelated to algae.**
- D. A type of metal corrosion.**

Algae discoloration is staining on roof shingles caused by algae growth. This is the best choice because the term describes a type of roof discoloration produced specifically by algae, not by decorative design, fungus unrelated to algae, or metal corrosion. The discoloration typically appears as green, black, or brown patches or streaks on the shingle surface, usually where moisture and shade promote growth. It's mainly cosmetic, signaling moisture retention and potential aging of the roof, and it can be managed with moisture control and preventive measures like zinc or copper strip systems or appropriate algaecides, while avoiding harsh cleaning methods that could damage shingles.

6. Which term describes a horizontal row of shingles running the length of the roof?

- A. Draft**
- B. Expense**
- C. Course**
- D. Dormer**

In roofing terms, shingles are laid in horizontal rows called courses. Each course runs across the roof from the eave to the ridge, and you add another course above it as you progress up the slope. The term that describes a single horizontal row of shingles is a course. A dormer is a separate architectural feature that projects from the roof and has its own small roof, not a row of shingles. Draft and expense aren't roofing terms for rows of shingles.

7. In roofing terminology, what is the measured amount of roof surface exposed to weather after installation called, usually expressed in inches?

- A. Downspout
- B. Eaves
- C. Exposure**
- D. Drip edge

Exposure is the term for how much of each shingle is left visible after installation. That visible portion faces the weather, so it's measured in inches to standardize installation. The amount chosen affects water runoff, wind resistance, and overall look, and it varies by shingle type and manufacturer. Downspout, Eaves, and Drip edge refer to other roof or gutter components—downspouts carry water away from the roof, eaves are the roof edge, and a drip edge is a metal strip that directs water off the roof. Thus, exposure is the correct term for the measured surface exposed to weather.

8. In a closed-cut valley, what is true about the valley flashing?

- A. The valley flashing is exposed.
- B. Shingles from both sides extend across the valley.
- C. One side is trimmed 2 inches from centerline.
- D. The valley flashing is not exposed.**

In a closed-cut valley, the valley flashing is hidden under the roofing shingles. The shingles are arranged so that one side's shingles extend into the valley and cover the flashing, while the other side is cut back toward the centerline, leaving no visible metal in the valley. That's why the valley flashing isn't exposed. If the flashing were exposed, you'd have an open valley, and describing both sides extending across the valley would imply a visible flashing or a different setup. The exact amount one side is trimmed isn't the defining feature; it's the fact that the flashing stays concealed beneath the shingles.

9. Which acronym stands for the Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers Association?

- A. American Plywood Association
- B. Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers Association**
- C. American Society for Testing and Materials
- D. Algae discoloration

Acronyms are formed from the initial letters of an organization's name, so the letters ARMA come from Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers Association. That full name is exactly the entity represented by the acronym, which is why this option is the best pick. The other options refer to different groups or terms (a plywood association, a standards body, or something unrelated like algae discoloration), so they don't match the acronym ARMA.

10. Which term describes the additional layer of roofing material at the eaves to help prevent damage from water back-up?

- A. Downspout**
- B. Felt**
- C. Feathering strips**
- D. Eaves flashing**

The main idea here is understanding edge protection at the eaves that stops water from backing up and causing leaks. Eaves flashing is a metal strip installed along the eave edge, typically under the shingles and over the underlayment, that seals the roof edge and directs water into the gutter. This edge piece prevents water from seeping behind the roofing at the eave, which can lead to leaks in the attic or soffit and helps reduce ice dam and wind-driven rain damage. Downspouts are part of the gutter system that carries water away from the building and aren't a roofing edge protection. Felt is the general underlayment beneath the shingles, providing a moisture barrier but not specifically addressing water back-up at the eave edge. Feathering strips aren't a standard feature for edge protection at the eaves. So, the term that best describes the protective edge at the eaves is eaves flashing.

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://mastercraftsmanshingle.examzify.com>

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

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