

NEVADA CLASSIFICATION C-20 ANSI TILING STANDARDS PRACTICE TEST (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. What is the main benefit of verifying substrate moisture levels before tiling?**
 - A. To make tile selection easier
 - B. To prevent future installation issues
 - C. To ensure creativity in design
 - D. To enhance the aesthetic appeal
- 2. What does the term "grout" refer to in tile installations?**
 - A. A material used to clean tiles after installation
 - B. A type of tile adhesive
 - C. A material used to fill the spaces between tiles after installation
 - D. Decorative strips used around the edges of tiles
- 3. What are some signs of improper tile installation?**
 - A. Shiny and reflective tile surfaces
 - B. Cracked tiles, hollow sounds, misalignment, and grout haze
 - C. Perfectly even spacing between tiles
 - D. Uniform tile color across the installation
- 4. Which standard specifically covers the installation of ceramic tile?**
 - A. ANSI A108
 - B. ANSI A110
 - C. ANSI A112
 - D. ANSI A120
- 5. What aspect does the ANSI A137.1 standard primarily focus on for ceramic tiles?**
 - A. Installation methods
 - B. Physical properties
 - C. Environmental impact
 - D. Design aesthetics

- 6. What can be the result of bond failure between tile and substrate?**
- A. Enhanced durability
 - B. Separation of tile from the surface
 - C. Improved installation speed
 - D. Decreased maintenance needs
- 7. How much slope is recommended per 10 feet in typical installations?**
- A. 1/8 inch
 - B. 1/4 inch
 - C. 1/2 inch
 - D. 3/4 inch
- 8. Why is it important to allow for expansion joints in tile installations?**
- A. To enhance aesthetic appeal
 - B. To allow for natural movement and prevent cracking
 - C. To simplify future repairs
 - D. To reduce installation time
- 9. What does "lippage" refer to in tile installation?**
- A. The gap between tiles
 - B. The height difference between adjacent tiles
 - C. The adhesive used for installation
 - D. The overall tile layout
- 10. What is the typical maximum spacing for floor framing?**
- A. 12 inches on center
 - B. 16 inches on center
 - C. 18 inches on center
 - D. 24 inches on center

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is the main benefit of verifying substrate moisture levels before tiling?

- A. To make tile selection easier
- B. To prevent future installation issues**
- C. To ensure creativity in design
- D. To enhance the aesthetic appeal

Verifying substrate moisture levels before tiling is crucial primarily to prevent future installation issues. Moisture levels that are too high can lead to a variety of problems, such as adhesive failure, mold growth, and the eventual deterioration of both the tile and the substrate beneath it. When moisture seeps through or accumulates, it can compromise the integrity of the flooring system, leading to cracking, debonding, and other defects that are costly to repair and can require the entire installation to be redone. By assessing and managing moisture levels prior to installation, tile setters ensure that the environment is suitable for tiling, which ultimately protects the investment made in materials and labor. This proactive approach contributes to the durability and longevity of the tiled surface, maintaining its functionality and appearance over time.

2. What does the term "grout" refer to in tile installations?

- A. A material used to clean tiles after installation
- B. A type of tile adhesive
- C. A material used to fill the spaces between tiles after installation**
- D. Decorative strips used around the edges of tiles

Grout refers specifically to the material used to fill the spaces between tiles after they have been installed. This filling serves several important purposes in tile installations. Firstly, it helps to secure the tiles in place and prevents them from shifting over time. Secondly, grout acts as a barrier against moisture, which is essential in areas prone to water exposure, such as kitchens and bathrooms. Additionally, it contributes to the aesthetic appearance of the tiled surface, as it can come in a variety of colors to either contrast with or complement the tiles. Understanding the function of grout is critical for maintaining the integrity and look of tile flooring or wall applications. Knowledge of grout helps ensure that tile installers select the appropriate type for the specific installation requirements, including considerations for water resistance, color matching, and overall durability.

3. What are some signs of improper tile installation?

- A. Shiny and reflective tile surfaces
- B. Cracked tiles, hollow sounds, misalignment, and grout haze**
- C. Perfectly even spacing between tiles
- D. Uniform tile color across the installation

Improper tile installation can manifest in several noticeable ways, and cracked tiles, hollow sounds, misalignment, and grout haze are key indicators of such deficiencies. Cracked tiles are often a result of inadequate substrate preparation, excessive movement, or using inappropriate adhesive. When tiles are installed over an uneven surface without proper leveling, this can lead to stress on the tiles, causing them to crack over time. Hollow sounds, sometimes referred to as "hollow spots," occur when tiles are not properly bonded to the substrate. A well-adhered tile should sound solid when tapped, but if a hollow sound is present, it indicates that there are air gaps, which can lead to tiles eventually popping off or getting damaged. Misalignment refers to tiles that are not laid in a straight line or uniform pattern, which can detract significantly from the aesthetic appeal of the installation. This misalignment often results from poor layout planning or inadequate spacing between tiles. Grout haze is a common cosmetic concern that occurs when grout residue is left on the tile surface after installation. While it might not compromise the integrity of the tiles themselves, it can indicate that the installation was rushed or poorly executed, as proper cleaning should be part of the final steps of tile installation. Overall

4. Which standard specifically covers the installation of ceramic tile?

A. ANSI A108

B. ANSI A110

C. ANSI A112

D. ANSI A120

The correct answer is A, ANSI A108, because this standard provides the specific guidelines and requirements for the installation of ceramic tile, including recommendations related to the materials, installation methods, and testing procedures. ANSI A108 covers the entire installation process, detailing aspects such as substrate preparation, setting materials, and grouting methods, ensuring a durable and high-quality installation. Other options, while they may relate to tile or flooring in a broader sense, do not specifically address the installation practices for ceramic tiles. For instance, standards like ANSI A110 may cover related areas but do not focus primarily on ceramic tile installation methodologies. Therefore, it's essential to refer to ANSI A108 when discussing the proper practices for installing ceramic tile.

5. What aspect does the ANSI A137.1 standard primarily focus on for ceramic tiles?

A. Installation methods

B. Physical properties

C. Environmental impact

D. Design aesthetics

The ANSI A137.1 standard primarily focuses on the physical properties of ceramic tiles. This standard outlines the required specifications and testing methods for ceramic tiles to ensure they meet certain quality and performance criteria. These properties include characteristics such as water absorption, breaking strength, abrasion resistance, and thermal shock resistance, among others. By defining these physical properties, the standard aims to provide guidance for manufacturers and consumers to assess the durability and suitability of ceramic tiles for various applications in construction and design. Understanding these physical aspects is crucial for ensuring that tiles perform well under different conditions and meet the expectations of both builders and homeowners.

6. What can be the result of bond failure between tile and substrate?

A. Enhanced durability

B. Separation of tile from the surface

C. Improved installation speed

D. Decreased maintenance needs

Bond failure between tile and substrate occurs when the adherence between the two surfaces deteriorates or is insufficient. This failure can result in the separation of the tile from the surface, leading to noticeable issues such as cracking, lifting, or complete detachment. When tiles do not properly bond, the expected structural integrity and function of the tiled surface are compromised, affecting both aesthetics and usability. Understanding bond failure is crucial in tiling applications, as it underscores the importance of proper installation techniques, including surface preparation, adhesive selection, and environmental considerations. Effective bonding contributes to the longevity and performance of tiled surfaces, while bond failure directly leads to the opposite outcome.

7. How much slope is recommended per 10 feet in typical installations?

- A. 1/8 inch
- B. 1/4 inch**
- C. 1/2 inch
- D. 3/4 inch

A slope of 1/4 inch per 10 feet is the recommended standard in typical tile installations, particularly for areas such as showers and other wet environments. This specific slope allows for effective drainage without compromising the integrity or safety of the tiled surface. Water drainage is a critical factor in preventing water accumulation, mold growth, and damage to both the tile and the underlying structure. Using a slope of 1/4 inch per 10 feet ensures that water flows away from the surface efficiently, minimizing the risk of slip hazards while maintaining a comfortable level of usability. It strikes a balance between adequate drainage and practical installation, making it a widely accepted standard in the industry.

8. Why is it important to allow for expansion joints in tile installations?

- A. To enhance aesthetic appeal
- B. To allow for natural movement and prevent cracking**
- C. To simplify future repairs
- D. To reduce installation time

Allowing for expansion joints in tile installations is crucial because materials such as tile, grout, and the substrate they are affixed to can expand and contract due to temperature changes, humidity, and other environmental factors. If these materials are rigidly confined without any means for movement, stress can build up, leading to cracking, popping, or even complete failure of the tile covering. Expansion joints provide a designated space that absorbs this movement, allowing the materials to shift without causing damage. This proactive measure ensures the longevity and integrity of the installation, significantly reducing the likelihood of costly repairs or replacements down the line. While considerations such as aesthetic appeal, ease of future repairs, and installation time are important, they do not address the fundamental reason for incorporating expansion joints, which is to accommodate the natural movements of materials in response to environmental changes.

9. What does "lippage" refer to in tile installation?

- A. The gap between tiles
- B. The height difference between adjacent tiles**
- C. The adhesive used for installation
- D. The overall tile layout

Lippage refers to the height difference between adjacent tiles in a tiled surface. This defect can occur when tiles are not installed evenly or if there are irregularities in the substrate. When lippage is present, one tile's edge is higher than the edge of a neighboring tile, which can create an uneven surface that is not only visually unappealing but can also pose a tripping hazard. Proper installation techniques, including ensuring a level substrate and using appropriate leveling methods, are critical for preventing lippage. Understanding this concept is essential for anyone involved in tile installation, as it impacts both the aesthetics and functionality of the finished floor or wall. The other options represent different aspects of tile installation but do not accurately define lippage. For instance, the gap between tiles pertains to grout joints or spacing, while the adhesive refers to the materials used to bond tiles to the substrate, and the overall tile layout relates to the design and arrangement of the tiles, none of which encapsulate the specific issue of height differences that define lippage.

10. What is the typical maximum spacing for floor framing?

- A. 12 inches on center
- B. 16 inches on center**
- C. 18 inches on center
- D. 24 inches on center

The typical maximum spacing for floor framing is 16 inches on center. This measurement is a widely accepted standard in construction, particularly important for ensuring proper structural support and load distribution in flooring systems. Spacing floor joists at this interval allows for adequate weight support from both the flooring and any loads applied on top, such as furniture, people, and appliances. Using this spacing helps to maintain the integrity of the floor and reduces the likelihood of sagging or bouncing, which can be problematic in areas with high foot traffic. While some applications may allow for wider spacing, using 16 inches on center strikes a balance between structural soundness and material efficiency, making it the preferred choice for most residential and commercial floor installations. Other spacing options, such as 12 inches or 24 inches, might be used in specific situations or for specialized structures, but 16 inches on center is the standard that supports optimal performance and safety for typical flooring designs.

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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://nvc20ansitilingstandards.examzify.com>

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

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