

NEW MEXICO DMV DRIVERS PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

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Table of Contents

Copyright	1
Table of Contents	2
Introduction	3
How to Use This Guide	4
Questions	5
Answers	8
Explanations	10
Next Steps	15

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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 purpose of the "Door Open" law in New Mexico?**
 - A. To allow cyclists to pass parked cars safely
 - B. To prevent cyclists from being injured by car doors opening
 - C. To ensure all vehicle doors close properly
 - D. To regulate parking near bike lanes
- 2. In case of bleeding from an injury, what should you apply to the wound?**
 - A. Ice pack
 - B. Pressure with a cloth or hand
 - C. A tourniquet
 - D. Bandaid
- 3. When making a right turn on a red light, what is required of you?**
 - A. You can turn without stopping if it's safe
 - B. Come to a complete stop and yield to pedestrians and oncoming traffic
 - C. Proceed cautiously without stopping
 - D. Use your turn signal before acting
- 4. What is the appropriate action if you encounter a bicyclist on the roadway?**
 - A. Honk your horn
 - B. Pass closely to them
 - C. Give them at least five feet of clearance when passing
 - D. Speed past them without warning
- 5. Why are new drivers at higher risk for accidents?**
 - A. Lack of interest in safe driving
 - B. Lack of experience
 - C. Distracted driving habits
 - D. High speed driving tendencies
- 6. What should you do if you miss your exit on the highway?**
 - A. Stop and back up
 - B. Make a U-turn immediately
 - C. Continue to the next exit and turn around
 - D. Pull over and wait

- 7. In the context of auto insurance, what does property damage liability cover?**
- A. Medical expenses for the driver
 - B. Repairs to the driver's own vehicle
 - C. Injury claims from passengers
 - D. Damage done to other people's property
- 8. How often should you check your mirrors while driving?**
- A. Every 10–15 seconds
 - B. Only when changing lanes
 - C. Once every minute
 - D. Only at stop signs
- 9. If you are hit from the rear, what is the recommended position for your body?**
- A. Lean forward against the steering wheel
 - B. Press against the back of your seat
 - C. Sit upright with your hands on the dashboard
 - D. Turn your body to face the passenger side
- 10. What is a common sign of drowsy driving?**
- A. Increased alertness
 - B. Frequent yawning or heavy eyelids
 - C. Accelerated speed
 - D. Clear and focused driving

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is the purpose of the "Door Open" law in New Mexico?

- A. To allow cyclists to pass parked cars safely
- B. To prevent cyclists from being injured by car doors opening**
- C. To ensure all vehicle doors close properly
- D. To regulate parking near bike lanes

The "Door Open" law in New Mexico is designed to prevent cyclists from being injured by car doors opening unexpectedly. This law aims to enhance the safety of cyclists on the road by requiring drivers and passengers to take necessary precautions when opening vehicle doors, especially in areas where cyclists may be present. By ensuring that vehicle occupants check for oncoming cyclists before exiting the vehicle, the law helps reduce the risk of accidents and promotes safer interactions between cyclists and motor vehicles. This focus on cyclist safety aligns with broader efforts to create a safer environment for all road users.

2. In case of bleeding from an injury, what should you apply to the wound?

- A. Ice pack
- B. Pressure with a cloth or hand**
- C. A tourniquet
- D. Bandaid

Applying pressure to a wound with a cloth or your hand is crucial in controlling bleeding. When you exert pressure directly on the injured area, it helps to compress the blood vessels, which can significantly slow down or even stop the bleeding. This method is a fundamental first aid response to manage wounds effectively before professional medical help can be obtained. Using a cloth creates a barrier that can also help prevent infection as long as the cloth is clean. If bleeding is severe, maintaining consistent pressure is vital, and if the cloth becomes soaked, additional layers should be added rather than lifting it off, to avoid disrupting any clotting that may have begun. In contrast, while applying an ice pack may help reduce swelling and numb pain, it is not the primary method for handling bleeding. A tourniquet is typically only used for severe bleeding in extremities where direct pressure has failed and should be applied with caution. Finally, a Bandaid is suitable for minor cuts or scrapes but is not effective for controlling bleeding from more serious injuries.

3. When making a right turn on a red light, what is required of you?

- A. You can turn without stopping if it's safe
- B. Come to a complete stop and yield to pedestrians and oncoming traffic**
- C. Proceed cautiously without stopping
- D. Use your turn signal before acting

When making a right turn on a red light, the law requires that you come to a complete stop before proceeding. This action is crucial for ensuring the safety of pedestrians and oncoming traffic. Yielding to pedestrians is especially important, as they have the right of way, and failing to do so can result in serious accidents. Additionally, yielding to oncoming traffic is necessary to prevent collisions. Even though you may have the opportunity to turn right on red, stopping and assessing the situation helps make sure that the turn can be made safely and in accordance with traffic laws. This approach reinforces the principle of defensive driving, which prioritizes awareness of all road users.

4. What is the appropriate action if you encounter a bicyclist on the roadway?

- A. Honk your horn
- B. Pass closely to them
- C. Give them at least five feet of clearance when passing**
- D. Speed past them without warning

When encountering a bicyclist on the roadway, it is essential to prioritize safety for both the driver and the cyclist. The appropriate action is to give the bicyclist at least five feet of clearance when passing. This distance is crucial because it helps ensure the cyclist has enough space to maintain their balance and reduces the risk of a collision. Adequate clearance improves the visibility for both the motorist and the cyclist and demonstrates respect for the space that cyclists occupy on the road. Maintaining this safe distance while passing is not only a courteous action but also aligns with many traffic laws designed to promote safe interactions between vehicles and bicycles. These laws vary by state, but the principle of providing sufficient space is widely recognized as a best practice for road safety.

5. Why are new drivers at higher risk for accidents?

- A. Lack of interest in safe driving
- B. Lack of experience**
- C. Distracted driving habits
- D. High speed driving tendencies

New drivers are at a higher risk for accidents primarily due to their lack of experience. Inexperienced drivers have not yet had the opportunity to develop the necessary skills and judgment required to navigate various driving situations safely. They may struggle with recognizing potential hazards, understanding the appropriate response in emergencies, or making quick decisions that experienced drivers might take for granted. This absence of experience can lead to errors in judgment, such as miscalculating distances, misjudging speeds, or being unable to effectively manage vehicle control, particularly in challenging conditions. While other factors, such as distractions or tendencies towards speeding, can also increase risk, the fundamental issue remains the new driver's unfamiliarity with real-world driving dynamics, which can greatly impact safety on the road.

6. What should you do if you miss your exit on the highway?

- A. Stop and back up
- B. Make a U-turn immediately
- C. Continue to the next exit and turn around**
- D. Pull over and wait

If you miss your exit on the highway, the correct course of action is to continue to the next exit and turn around. This approach is safe and follows the rules of the road, ensuring that you do not create a dangerous situation for yourself or other drivers. Stopping or backing up on a highway can lead to significant hazards; it places you at risk of a collision and disrupts the flow of traffic. Making an immediate U-turn can also be extremely dangerous and is often illegal on highways. It increases the likelihood of accidents and confuses other drivers, as they do not expect vehicles to be turning in the opposite direction. Pulling over and waiting is not a practical solution either, as it does not address the issue of where you need to go and could create a hazardous situation by stopping in an unauthorized area. By continuing to the next exit, you can safely reorient yourself and navigate to where you need to go without compromising safety or violating traffic laws.

7. In the context of auto insurance, what does property damage liability cover?

- A. Medical expenses for the driver
- B. Repairs to the driver's own vehicle
- C. Injury claims from passengers
- D. Damage done to other people's property**

Property damage liability is a key component of auto insurance that focuses specifically on the damage a driver may cause to another person's property in the event of an accident. This type of coverage helps to pay for repairs or replacement of property that is damaged as a result of your actions while driving, such as hitting another vehicle, damaging a fence, or causing damage to any other structures or outbuildings. Understanding this coverage is crucial for responsible driving because it protects you from having to pay large sums out of pocket if you accidentally cause damage to someone else's property. It ensures that victims of your accidents are compensated fairly for their losses, which can be beneficial in maintaining good relationships and avoiding legal issues. This liability coverage only applies to property that you damage and does not cover your own vehicle or medical expenses.

8. How often should you check your mirrors while driving?

- A. Every 10–15 seconds**
- B. Only when changing lanes
- C. Once every minute
- D. Only at stop signs

Checking your mirrors every 10–15 seconds is essential for maintaining situational awareness while driving. This practice helps you stay informed about surrounding vehicles, potential hazards, and changes in traffic conditions. By monitoring mirrors regularly, you can anticipate actions from other drivers and adjust your own driving accordingly, enhancing your safety and that of others on the road. Options that suggest checking mirrors less frequently, such as only when changing lanes or at stop signs, do not provide adequate awareness of your driving environment. These approaches can lead to missed information about nearby vehicles or pedestrians, which can increase the risk of accidents. Regular mirror checks contribute to a more defensive driving style, allowing for timely reactions to any traffic situation.

9. If you are hit from the rear, what is the recommended position for your body?

- A. Lean forward against the steering wheel
- B. Press against the back of your seat**
- C. Sit upright with your hands on the dashboard
- D. Turn your body to face the passenger side

In the event of being hit from the rear, pressing against the back of your seat is the recommended position because it helps to maximize the support your seat provides in a sudden impact. This position allows your entire back to be supported, reducing the risk of injury from the jolt. By remaining firmly against the seat, your body is better aligned and can absorb the force of the collision evenly, which is crucial for minimizing the chance of whiplash and other injuries. Positioning your body this way also keeps your arms and hands in a safer and more controlled position, allowing you to maintain control of the vehicle if necessary after the impact. Distributing your body weight back into the seat provides better stability, which is especially important in a rear-end collision where your body may be jolted forward suddenly.

10. What is a common sign of drowsy driving?

- A. Increased alertness
- B. Frequent yawning or heavy eyelids**
- C. Accelerated speed
- D. Clear and focused driving

Frequent yawning or heavy eyelids is a common sign of drowsy driving and indicates a lack of alertness. When a driver is becoming fatigued, these physical symptoms often manifest, suggesting that the person's body is signaling a need for rest. Drowsiness decreases reaction times and impairs decision-making abilities, making it dangerous to continue driving in such a state. In contrast, increased alertness and clear and focused driving signify that a driver is attentive and fully awake, which are the opposite of drowsy driving. Accelerated speed can be associated with aggressive driving behaviors, but it does not directly indicate drowsiness. Recognizing signs of fatigue is crucial for safety, as it can help prevent accidents caused by sleepy drivers.

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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://nmdmvddrivers.examzify.com>

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

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