

New York State Certificate of Competency (CoC) Class B Pyrotechnician License Practice Exam (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. What term means debris produced or expelled by the functioning of a pyrotechnic device capable of causing injury or damage?**
 - A. Fallout Area**
 - B. No Fire Current**
 - C. Hazardous Debris**
 - D. Aerial shells**

- 2. Which option is acceptable as underlayment support under a buried mortar?**
 - A. Concrete block**
 - B. Wood or flat rock**
 - C. Cardboard**
 - D. Gravel and sand**

- 3. Which of the following best describes the required separation between buried mortars and the wall of troughs or drums?**
 - A. 1 inch**
 - B. 2 inches**
 - C. 3 inches**
 - D. 4 inches**

- 4. Which term refers to a fuse made from string impregnated with black powder?**
 - A. Safety Fuse (Visco Fuse)**
 - B. No Fire Current**
 - C. Fusee**
 - D. Black Match**

- 5. What is the minimum distance fireworks preparation areas must be from public access?**
 - A. 50 feet**
 - B. 150 feet**
 - C. 200 feet**
 - D. 100 feet**

- 6. Which class is defined as Very Insensitive Explosive?**
- A. Class 1.1G**
 - B. Class 1.2G**
 - C. Class 1.3G**
 - D. Class 1.5G**
- 7. Minimum distance fireworks preparation areas must maintain from public access is**
- A. 100 feet**
 - B. 25 feet**
 - C. 200 feet**
 - D. 50 feet**
- 8. Smoking materials, matches or lighters are not permitted within how many feet of fireworks or pyrotechnic devices?**
- A. 25'**
 - B. 75'**
 - C. 50'**
 - D. 100'**
- 9. Where must a certified pyrotechnic license holder keep their license?**
- A. On their person, and shall produce it upon request.**
 - B. In their office safe.**
 - C. In the glove compartment of their vehicle.**
 - D. With the event supervisor.**
- 10. During a serious electro-static discharge hazard, which action is required?**
- A. All electro-static discharge sensitive operations should be suspended.**
 - B. All personnel shall withdraw to a safe place.**
 - C. All equipment should be powered down.**
 - D. Only essential staff should remain.**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What term means debris produced or expelled by the functioning of a pyrotechnic device capable of causing injury or damage?

- A. Fallout Area
- B. No Fire Current
- C. Hazardous Debris**
- D. Aerial shells

Hazardous debris refers to the fragments and byproducts produced or expelled by a pyrotechnic device that can injure people or damage property. Recognizing this term helps you plan safety measures, such as appropriate distances, personal protective equipment, and cleanup procedures, because the debris itself poses a real risk after firing. It's not about the area where debris lands (that would be the fallout area), nor a term like no fire current, and aerial shells are the devices that produce debris rather than the debris itself.

2. Which option is acceptable as underlayment support under a buried mortar?

- A. Concrete block
- B. Wood or flat rock**
- C. Cardboard
- D. Gravel and sand

Underlayment support for a buried mortar must provide a flat, stable surface that evenly distributes the mortar's weight and resists shifting as the ground settles. A flat rock or a flat, properly sized piece of wood can create that solid, level platform directly under the mortar tube, keeping it aligned and preventing loose soil from moving around the base. Cardboard would break down in moist soil, and loose materials like gravel and sand can shift or settle, losing the needed stability. Concrete blocks can also be rigid, but they may be difficult to fit precisely and can create uneven spots. So, a flat rock or a suitable piece of wood gives a consistent, stable base for burial.

3. Which of the following best describes the required separation between buried mortars and the wall of troughs or drums?

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

Two inches is the required separation. This clearance keeps the buried mortar tube from contacting the wall of the trough or drum, reducing the chance that the blast or fragments transfer energy directly to the container. It helps contain debris, minimizes heat transfer to the trough wall, and accommodates minor shifts during burial. One inch would be too close to safely absorb the blast, while larger gaps aren't required by the standard and would unnecessarily waste space.

4. Which term refers to a fuse made from string impregnated with black powder?

- A. Safety Fuse (Visco Fuse)**
- B. No Fire Current**
- C. Fusee**
- D. Black Match**

A fuse made by soaking string in black powder is called black match. This traditional cord of string coated with black powder burns quickly and serves as a simple ignition line for short distances or rapid starts. It differs from safety fuse (Visco fuse), which uses a slow-burning core for longer, more controlled burns, and from a fusee, which is another term for a slow-burning fuse used in some devices. So the term that describes string impregnated with black powder is black match.

5. What is the minimum distance fireworks preparation areas must be from public access?

- A. 50 feet**
- B. 150 feet**
- C. 200 feet**
- D. 100 feet**

Keeping a safe perimeter around fireworks preparation areas is all about limiting exposure to the public in case something goes wrong during setup. The minimum distance from any public access to where fireworks are prepared is 100 feet. This buffer reduces the chance that spectators or passersby are near the area if a misfire, spark, or accidental ignition occurs, and it also allows space for security, crowd management, and emergency access. The distance is measured from the edge of the preparation area to the nearest public access point, such as a sidewalk or street, and barriers or fencing are commonly used to enforce it. A smaller distance wouldn't provide enough protection, while larger distances are more precautionary and may be used in higher-risk situations or larger operations, but 100 feet is the standard minimum.

6. Which class is defined as Very Insensitive Explosive?

- A. Class 1.1G**
- B. Class 1.2G**
- C. Class 1.3G**
- D. Class 1.5G**

The idea being tested is how explosives are classified by sensitivity within Class 1 hazards. Very Insensitive Explosives are designated as Class 1.5, a category used for materials that are so resistant to initiation that a detonation is unlikely under ordinary handling. The "G" suffix is the compatibility group used in some regulatory systems to further specify packaging or segregation, but the key takeaway is that Very Insensitive Explosive corresponds to Class 1.5. So, the choice that identifies a Very Insensitive Explosive is the one labeled as 1.5G. The other classifications describe higher sensitivity and different hazard types: 1.1 involves mass explosion hazard, 1.2 involves projection hazard, and 1.3 involves fire hazard with no significant blast.

7. Minimum distance fireworks preparation areas must maintain from public access is

- A. 100 feet**
- B. 25 feet**
- C. 200 feet**
- D. 50 feet**

Safety distances create a protective buffer around the fireworks preparation area to keep the public safe from hazards like misfires, sparks, and flying debris. Maintaining a distance of 100 feet from public access gives the operator room to work with ignition materials and handling equipment while reducing the chance that an accidental ignition or fallout reaches spectators. Distances such as 50 feet or 25 feet would leave too little buffer for safe handling or for a quick emergency response. A larger distance, like 200 feet, could be used in higher-hazard situations, but 100 feet is the minimum required to meet standard safety practices for the preparation area.

8. Smoking materials, matches or lighters are not permitted within how many feet of fireworks or pyrotechnic devices?

- A. 25'**
- B. 75'**
- C. 50'**
- D. 100'**

Keep ignition sources away from fireworks because heat, sparks, or flame can ignite pyrotechnic materials even without direct contact. Fifty feet gives a practical safety buffer so a stray ember or brief flame from smoking doesn't reach a device or its fuzes. Twenty-five feet is closer than is prudent and increases the risk; seventy-five or one hundred feet are more restrictive than necessary for this rule while still offering a margin. So, the standard rule is to stay at least fifty feet away from any fireworks or pyrotechnic devices.

9. Where must a certified pyrotechnic license holder keep their license?

- A. On their person, and shall produce it upon request.**
- B. In their office safe.**
- C. In the glove compartment of their vehicle.**
- D. With the event supervisor.**

The requirement tests how credential visibility and accessibility are handled. A licensed pyrotechnician must carry their license on their person and be able to present it if asked by an inspector or authority. This ensures immediate verification of qualifications during work. Storing it in an office safe or in a vehicle glove compartment would hinder quick verification, and keeping it with the event supervisor would not guarantee personal access when needed. So, the license should be kept on you at all times and produced upon request.

10. During a serious electro-static discharge hazard, which action is required?

- A. All electro-static discharge sensitive operations should be suspended.**
- B. All personnel shall withdraw to a safe place.**
- C. All equipment should be powered down.**
- D. Only essential staff should remain.**

When a serious electro-static discharge hazard is identified, the priority is to stop activities that involve sensitive electro-static discharge work. Static discharges can carry enough energy to ignite pyrotechnic materials or damage sensitive devices, so halting those operations removes the immediate ignition risk and buys time to implement grounding, humidity control, and other anti-static measures. Stopping all ESD-sensitive operations is broader and more protective than simply powering down equipment or removing some personnel. Powering down might not eliminate all static charges on surfaces or in the environment, and leaving only essential staff or withdrawing people without halting the specific ESD-sensitive tasks still poses a risk if those tasks resume. The key step is to suspend the activities that could produce or be affected by an electro-static discharge until the hazard is cleared.

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://nystatecocclassbpyro.examzify.com>

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

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