

North Carolina (NC) Permit Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

This is a sample study guide. To access the full version with hundreds of 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. Don't worry about getting everything right, 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, and take breaks to retain information better.

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.

7. Use Other Tools

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!

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Questions

- 1. What should you do if your vehicle starts to skid?**
 - A. Steer in the direction of the skid**
 - B. Apply the brakes hard**
 - C. Accelerate to regain control**
 - D. Turn off the engine**
- 2. If you approach an intersection where there are no traffic lights/signs and a pedestrian is attempting to cross your path, who has the right-of-way?**
 - A. No one**
 - B. The driver of the car**
 - C. The pedestrian**
 - D. Whoever reaches the intersection first**
- 3. What should you do if you encounter a flooded roadway?**
 - A. Speed through the water if it looks shallow**
 - B. Wait for the water to recede before proceeding**
 - C. Turn around and find an alternate route**
 - D. Drive slowly through the water as long as possible**
- 4. How far should you signal before making a turn?**
 - A. At least 50 feet**
 - B. At least 75 feet**
 - C. At least 100 feet**
 - D. At least 150 feet**
- 5. At what age can a driver obtain a full, unrestricted license in North Carolina?**
 - A. 16 years old**
 - B. 17 years old**
 - C. 18 years old**
 - D. 21 years old**

- 6. When are you allowed to turn right on red in North Carolina?**
- A. After looking both ways**
 - B. After coming to a complete stop and ensuring it is safe to proceed**
 - C. At any time**
 - D. Only when a sign allows it**
- 7. A driver who is involved in an accident should do which of the following?**
- A. Make an immediate report to the nearest law enforcement agency.**
 - B. Notify his insurance company.**
 - C. Both A and B.**
 - D. Neither A nor B.**
- 8. A flashing yellow traffic signal at an intersection means:**
- A. No left turn.**
 - B. No right turn.**
 - C. Yield the right-of-way.**
 - D. Slow down and proceed with caution.**
- 9. Which of the following is true regarding seat belt use in North Carolina?**
- A. Seat belts are only required for front seat passengers**
 - B. All passengers must wear seat belts**
 - C. Children are exempt from wearing seat belts**
 - D. Seat belt use is optional for adults**
- 10. As you approach an intersection to make a right turn, you should turn on your right turn signal and do which of the following?**
- A. Both A and B**
 - B. Hold your arm straight out the window**
 - C. Neither A nor B**
 - D. Steer slightly toward the center of the road to give yourself room to clear the corner**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What should you do if your vehicle starts to skid?

A. Steer in the direction of the skid

B. Apply the brakes hard

C. Accelerate to regain control

D. Turn off the engine

When your vehicle starts to skid, it is essential to steer in the direction of the skid. This technique, often referred to as "steering into the skid," helps you regain control of the vehicle. When skidding, the back end of the car may slide out, and by directing the front wheels toward where you want to go, you can realign the vehicle with the direction of the road. This action allows the tires to grip the road better as you regain control. Applying the brakes hard, accelerating, or turning off the engine can exacerbate the situation. Braking aggressively can cause further loss of control or a complete spin, while accelerating can lead to a more severe skid. Turning off the engine does not provide any benefit in managing a skid and may make steering more difficult. Properly responding to a skid by steering into it is a fundamental skill in maintaining vehicle safety on slippery surfaces.

2. If you approach an intersection where there are no traffic lights/signs and a pedestrian is attempting to cross your path, who has the right-of-way?

A. No one

B. The driver of the car

C. The pedestrian

D. Whoever reaches the intersection first

In situations where you encounter an intersection without any traffic lights or signs, the pedestrian has the right-of-way. This rule is fundamental to pedestrian safety and is designed to ensure that those on foot can cross roadways without the risk of being overlooked by drivers. The reason behind granting the right-of-way to pedestrians is to promote safe interactions between vehicles and individuals crossing the street. Allowing pedestrians priority acknowledges their vulnerability on the road and helps minimize the risk of accidents. It is essential for drivers to remain vigilant and ready to yield to pedestrians in these scenarios, as it ensures a safer environment for everyone. Understanding this right-of-way rule helps foster respect and awareness between drivers and pedestrians, ultimately enhancing road safety.

3. What should you do if you encounter a flooded roadway?

- A. Speed through the water if it looks shallow
- B. Wait for the water to recede before proceeding
- C. Turn around and find an alternate route**
- D. Drive slowly through the water as long as possible

When encountering a flooded roadway, the safest and most responsible choice is to turn around and find an alternate route. Flooded roads can pose significant dangers, including strong currents, hidden obstacles, and the potential for vehicles to be swept away. Even if the water appears shallow, it can quickly change depth or conceal hazards underneath. Choosing to turn around allows you to avoid the risk of being stranded or facing an emergency situation. It is important to prioritize safety over attempting to navigate through potentially hazardous conditions. While waiting for the water to recede may seem like a safe option, it could result in prolonged delays and still leave you susceptible to other dangers, such as rising water levels or lack of visibility. Driving slowly through the water or attempting to speed through may seem like viable actions, but they often lead to a loss of control, engine damage, or even being washed away. Therefore, seeking an alternate route is the most prudent response in such situations.

4. How far should you signal before making a turn?

- A. At least 50 feet
- B. At least 75 feet
- C. At least 100 feet**
- D. At least 150 feet

You should signal at least 100 feet before making a turn. This distance is important because it gives other drivers ample time to react to your intentions. By signaling well in advance, you communicate your planned movement clearly, which can help prevent accidents or confusion on the road. This practice is especially crucial in situations where visibility is limited or where there may be other vehicles, cyclists, or pedestrians nearby. The 100-foot guideline ensures that your signaling is both timely and effective, promoting safe driving habits.

5. At what age can a driver obtain a full, unrestricted license in North Carolina?

- A. 16 years old
- B. 17 years old
- C. 18 years old**
- D. 21 years old

In North Carolina, a driver can obtain a full, unrestricted license at the age of 18. This is the age at which individuals have completed the graduated licensing process, which includes holding a learner's permit for at least 12 months and then having a provisional license for at least six months. During this time, they must meet certain requirements, such as adhering to driving curfews and passenger limits, which help ensure that the driver gains experience in a controlled manner. Once they reach 18, they are eligible to upgrade to a full, unrestricted license, allowing them complete driving privileges without any restrictions that apply to younger drivers.

6. When are you allowed to turn right on red in North Carolina?

A. After looking both ways

B. After coming to a complete stop and ensuring it is safe to proceed

C. At any time

D. Only when a sign allows it

In North Carolina, you are allowed to turn right on red after coming to a complete stop and ensuring that it is safe to proceed. This means that before making the turn, you must fully stop at the red light, look for oncoming traffic, cyclists, and pedestrians, and check that the road is clear. This rule is in place to ensure the safety of all road users by preventing accidents that could occur from turning without confirming that the path is safe. The requirement to come to a complete stop is crucial because it provides the driver with the opportunity to assess the situation at the intersection thoroughly before proceeding. This helps prevent collisions with vehicles or persons who might be navigating the intersection. Additionally, ensuring that it is safe to proceed emphasizes the importance of being cautious and aware of other road users, which is a fundamental principle of safe driving. While some intersections may not allow a right turn on red or have specific signage indicating when it is permissible, the general rule is that if you can safely make the turn, after stopping, it's allowed. This is why coming to a complete stop while ensuring safety is essential in this context.

7. A driver who is involved in an accident should do which of the following?

A. Make an immediate report to the nearest law enforcement agency.

B. Notify his insurance company.

C. Both A and B.

D. Neither A nor B.

In the event of an accident, a driver is required to take specific actions to ensure safety, compliance with the law, and proper communication with relevant parties. Making an immediate report to the nearest law enforcement agency is crucial because it allows authorities to document the incident, gather evidence, and ensure that any injuries are attended to quickly. This report can also be important for legal and insurance purposes. Additionally, notifying the insurance company is equally necessary, as they need to be informed as soon as possible to initiate the claims process. This helps ensure that the driver is covered for any damages or liabilities resulting from the accident. Both steps are critical parts of responsible driving behavior following an incident, emphasizing the importance of both legal compliance and proper communication with one's insurance provider. Therefore, the correct answer encompasses both actions being necessary.

8. A flashing yellow traffic signal at an intersection means:

- A. No left turn.**
- B. No right turn.**
- C. Yield the right-of-way.**
- D. Slow down and proceed with caution.**

The correct interpretation of a flashing yellow traffic signal at an intersection is to slow down and proceed with caution. This signal indicates that while you have the right-of-way, you need to be vigilant and prepared to stop if necessary. It often signifies that there may be other traffic, pedestrians, or potential hazards that require a driver's attention and careful driving through the intersection. The other options imply restrictions or definitive actions that do not accurately reflect the guidance of a flashing yellow signal. This signal does not prohibit turns or indicate that a driver must yield the right-of-way, but rather encourages careful observation and a cautious approach to the intersection.

9. Which of the following is true regarding seat belt use in North Carolina?

- A. Seat belts are only required for front seat passengers**
- B. All passengers must wear seat belts**
- C. Children are exempt from wearing seat belts**
- D. Seat belt use is optional for adults**

In North Carolina, all passengers in a vehicle are required by law to wear seat belts. This regulation applies to both front and rear seat occupants, emphasizing the importance of safety for everyone in the vehicle, regardless of their seating position. The law reflects a commitment to reducing injuries and fatalities in the event of an accident. The other statements do not align with the seat belt regulations in North Carolina. For instance, saying that seat belts are only required for front seat passengers does not capture the comprehensive nature of the law. Similarly, claiming that children are exempt from wearing seat belts misrepresents the legal requirements, as children are under specific laws aimed at their safety, including booster seats and proper restraints based on age and weight. Finally, stating that seat belt use is optional for adults contradicts the mandate for all passengers to use seat belts.

10. As you approach an intersection to make a right turn, you should turn on your right turn signal and do which of the following?

A. Both A and B

B. Hold your arm straight out the window

C. Neither A nor B

D. Steer slightly toward the center of the road to give yourself room to clear the corner

The correct choice is to steer slightly toward the center of the road to give yourself room to clear the corner. This practice allows for a smoother and safer turn. When making a right turn, if you stay too close to the curb, you may end up clipping the corner or having difficulty navigating the turn, especially if there are pedestrians, cyclists, or other vehicles. Steering slightly toward the center of the road helps maintain a safe distance from any obstacles on the right and allows you to complete the turn without risk of hitting the curb or causing a hazard. It's essential to be aware of your surroundings and adjust your positioning to ensure a clear and wide enough path as you make the turn. Holding your arm straight out the window is a signaling method used to indicate a left turn and is not appropriate for a right turn, where typically a right turn signal or a signal with your arm bent upward is used. Thus, only steering slightly toward the center contributes positively to your right turn maneuver.

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://ncpermit.examzify.com>

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