Omaha Journeyman Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide

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Questions

1. Cross linked polyethylene (PEX) pipe may be used for _____ water only?

A. High purity

B. Hot water

C. Cold water

D. Reclaimed water

2. The purpose of an interceptor is to?

A. Remove the hazardous waste from a sewer

B. Remove all the solids from a sewer

C. Remove a potentially fouling material from a sewer

D. Prevent clogs in sewer lines

3. What type of water closet installation is permissible in a medical specimen collection room?

A. Requires a lavatory

B. Can be installed without a lavatory

C. Requires handwashing fixtures

D. Only if it is a single-user facility

4. What is the function of a thermostatic mixing valve?

A. To increase water pressure

B. To adjust water temperature

C. To purify water

D. To drain water

5. A shower waste shall run independent of other fixtures directly to a _____ inch or larger waste.

A. 2

B. 3

C. 4

D. 5

6. All commercial garage drains shall be a minimum size of how many inches?

A. 2 in

B. 3 in

C. 4 in

D. 5 in

7. What is the minimum rated flow capacity for a grease trap?

A. 15 gpm

B. 20 gpm

C. 25 gpm

D. 30 gpm

8. What is the minimum size for a main cleanout in a residential plumbing system?

A. 2 inches

B. 3 inches

C. 4 inches

D. 6 inches

9. What is the minimum required depth for a mop sink?

A. 6 inches

B. 10 inches

C. 12 inches

D. 18 inches

10. What are the required dimensions for clear floor space on a handicapped accessible urinal?

A. 30 x 30 inches

B. 36 x 36 inches

C. 30 x 48 inches

D. 48 x 48 inches

Answers

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

Explanations

1. Cross linked polyethylene (PEX) pipe may be used for _____ water only?

A. High purity

B. Hot water

C. Cold water

D. Reclaimed water

Cross-linked polyethylene (PEX) pipe is a versatile plumbing material often used for a variety of applications, including both hot and cold water systems. The correct answer is "hot water." PEX is specifically designed to handle the temperature variations found in hot water plumbing systems without degrading or losing integrity over time. In many installations, PEX has excellent resistance to temperature and pressure, making it suitable for hot water distribution in residential and commercial settings. Its flexible nature allows for easier installation in tight spaces, contributing to its growing popularity among plumbers and contractors. While high-purity water applications may utilize other materials due to stringent regulations and the need for non-leaching characteristics, PEX is primarily recognized for its efficiency and performance in handling both hot and cold water supply lines.

2. The purpose of an interceptor is to?

A. Remove the hazardous waste from a sewer

B. Remove all the solids from a sewer

C. Remove a potentially fouling material from a sewer

D. Prevent clogs in sewer lines

An interceptor is specifically designed to remove potentially fouling materials from a sewer system. This involves capturing substances that, while they may not be hazardous waste per se, have the potential to cause problems in the sewer line, including blockages or chemical reactions that could result in detrimental effects on both the sewer infrastructure and the wastewater treatment process. By targeting these materials, interceptors help maintain smooth flow and operational efficiency in the sewer system, reducing maintenance needs and preventing larger, costlier issues. The other options generally focus on broader or different functions that are not the primary roles of an interceptor. For example, removing hazardous waste or all solids would imply a comprehensive cleaning approach that isn't aligned with the specific function of an interceptor. Instead, the interceptor's role is more focused on managing particular materials that pose a risk of fouling without attempting to completely eliminate other waste types. Similarly, while preventing clogs is important, it is a more generalized outcome of the interceptor's specific function rather than its direct purpose.

3. What type of water closet installation is permissible in a medical specimen collection room?

A. Requires a lavatory

B. Can be installed without a lavatory

C. Requires handwashing fixtures

D. Only if it is a single-user facility

In a medical specimen collection room, the installation of a water closet without a lavatory is permissible due to the specific functional requirements of the space. These rooms are designed primarily for the collection and handling of medical specimens, where the focus is on cleanliness and efficiency. Typically, guidelines and codes recognize that in certain specialized environments, such as specimen collection areas, the need for a separate lavatory may not be as critical as in other healthcare facilities where more extensive hygiene practices are necessary. Instead, functionality and the specific workflows of the room take precedence, allowing for a more streamlined setup that includes only the essential fixtures—namely the water closet. This approach helps minimize potential cross-contamination that could occur with more complex installations, thereby supporting both practical operations and patient safety within the medical environment.

4. What is the function of a thermostatic mixing valve?

A. To increase water pressure

B. To adjust water temperature

C. To purify water

D. To drain water

A thermostatic mixing valve is specifically designed to blend hot and cold water to achieve a desired output temperature. This is crucial for applications such as plumbing systems, particularly in residential and commercial environments, where consistent and safe water temperatures are necessary to prevent scalding or thermal shock. By automatically adjusting the proportions of hot and cold water, the valve ensures a steady, comfortable temperature, enhancing user safety and convenience. For example, when the temperature of the incoming hot water fluctuates, the thermostatic mixing valve reacts to adjust the mix, maintaining the set temperature at the outlet. This function is particularly important in installations such as showers, sinks, and bathing facilities, where users may be exposed to potentially hazardous temperature conditions. In contrast, the other options pertain to different functions not related to temperature regulation; therefore, they do not accurately represent the role of a thermostatic mixing valve.

5. A shower waste shall run independent of other fixtures directly to a _____ inch or larger waste.

A. 2

B. 3

C. 4

D. 5

In plumbing systems, particularly for drainage, it is essential that certain fixtures, such as showers, have their waste lines sized appropriately to ensure efficient drainage and to avoid clogs. A shower waste must run independently to accommodate the flow of wastewater generated by the shower without interference from other fixtures. The correct answer, which is 3 inches or larger, is specified because a minimum pipe size of 3 inches allows for adequate drainage capacity. This size is sufficient to carry the volume of water typically discharged by a shower, thus preventing backflow and ensuring that the waste is effectively disposed of into the main sewer line. Additionally, using a 3-inch waste line promotes better airflow within the plumbing system, reducing the likelihood of siphoning or drainage issues that could occur with smaller piping. Larger sizes, like 4 or 5 inches, while also acceptable, may not be necessary for a shower waste line alone. However, the minimum requirement set at 3 inches ensures that the system is designed effectively to handle the waste load efficiently.

6. All commercial garage drains shall be a minimum size of how many inches?

A. 2 in

B. 3 in

C. 4 in

D. 5 in

The minimum size for all commercial garage drains is established at 4 inches. This requirement is primarily driven by the need to efficiently handle large volumes of water and potential contaminants that may enter the drainage system from vehicles and cleaning activities. A 4-inch drain provides adequate flow capacity to manage stormwater and wastewater without the risk of backup or overflow, which is crucial in commercial settings where heavy use is common. Smaller drain sizes may become obstructed more easily or may not accommodate the amount of drainage typically produced in these environments. Adhering to this standard is essential for promoting safety and maintaining proper functionality within commercial garage facilities.

7. What is the minimum rated flow capacity for a grease trap?

A. 15 gpm

B. 20 gpm

C. 25 gpm

D. 30 gpm

The minimum rated flow capacity for a grease trap is an essential requirement to ensure proper functioning and compliance with plumbing codes. A rating of 20 gallons per minute (gpm) is often established for grease traps in commercial kitchen settings, as this capacity allows the trap to effectively handle the volume of wastewater produced during peak usage times, thereby preventing grease buildup that could lead to plumbing issues. A grease trap is designed to intercept and hold grease and solids before they enter the sewer system, which helps maintain proper sanitation and avoids clogging. If the grease trap has a lower flow capacity, it may not adequately service the facility, resulting in a higher likelihood of grease escaping into the drainage systems, consequently causing blockages and other sanitary issues. While other capacities mentioned may be applicable in different scenarios or for varying applications, the generally accepted minimum rating is 20 gpm for standard grease trap installations in commercial kitchens. This standard ensures that the draining water does not overwhelm the grease trap and allows enough time for grease to rise and be captured effectively.

8. What is the minimum size for a main cleanout in a residential plumbing system?

A. 2 inches

B. 3 inches

C. 4 inches

D. 6 inches

The minimum size for a main cleanout in a residential plumbing system is 3 inches. Cleanouts are essential access points in drain, waste, and vent (DWV) systems, allowing for maintenance and clearing of blockages. As per plumbing codes, a 3-inch cleanout is generally mandated to accommodate the flow of materials and to allow effective access for tools required for snaking and cleaning. This size ensures that a plumber can adequately manage typical obstructions that may occur in residential plumbing systems while maintaining sufficient drainage efficiency. Cleanouts typically need to be strategically placed at the base of vertical stacks and along horizontal runs to facilitate easy access for maintenance. While larger cleanouts may be used in specific scenarios or for larger building systems, the 3-inch minimum size is commonly recognized as the standard for residential setups.

9. What is the minimum required depth for a mop sink?

A. 6 inches

B. 10 inches

C. 12 inches

D. 18 inches

The minimum required depth for a mop sink is typically 12 inches. This depth is established to ensure that the sink is capable of accommodating the proper cleaning tools while preventing oversplash and maintaining sanitary conditions. A depth of 12 inches allows for efficient cleaning without risking water spilling over the edges, which could lead to water damage or unsanitary conditions. Additionally, this depth ensures that larger mop heads can be fully submerged, allowing for effective rinsing and sanitizing after use. Mop sinks are specifically designed for the purpose of cleaning mops and other janitorial supplies, so the specifications regarding their dimensions are critical for practical functionality and compliance with health and safety standards.

10. What are the required dimensions for clear floor space on a handicapped accessible urinal?

A. 30 x 30 inches

B. 36 x 36 inches

C. 30 x 48 inches

D. 48 x 48 inches

The correct choice indicates that the required dimensions for clear floor space around a handicapped accessible urinal should be 30 x 48 inches. This dimension is established to ensure that individuals using wheelchairs or mobility devices can comfortably approach and utilize the urinal. The width of 30 inches provides sufficient space for wheelchair access, while the length of 48 inches allows for adequate maneuvering space and ensures that a person can comfortably position themselves in front of the urinal without obstruction. This configuration aligns with ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) standards, which aim to provide accessibility in public restrooms, promoting dignity and safety for all users. Other dimensions like 30 x 30 inches or 36 x 36 inches do not meet the necessary lengths for a wheelchair user to navigate appropriately, while 48 x 48 inches exceeds the minimum requirement, which could lead to wasted space in restroom design.