Ontario Building Code Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide

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Questions

1. **Which of the following is not a requirement for a fire-rated column assembly in a residential building?**
   - **A. Labeled with a fire rating**
   - **B. Non-combustible materials**
   - **C. Continuous from floor to underside of roof sheathing**
   - **D. Minimum thickness of 75 mm**

2. **What is the minimum number of exits required for an industrial building with a capacity of 100 people?**
   - **A. 1**
   - **B. 2**
   - **C. 3**
   - **D. 4**

3. **What is the minimum number of accessible parking spaces required for a commercial building with 30 parking spaces?**
   - **A. 1**
   - **B. 2**
   - **C. 3**
   - **D. 4**

4. **Which of the following is not a requirement for a fire-rated ceiling assembly in a residential building?**
   - **A. Non-combustible materials**
   - **B. Labeled with a fire rating**
   - **C. Continuous from wall to wall**
   - **D. Minimum thickness of 50 mm**

5. **Which of the following is not a requirement for an accessible entrance in an industrial building?**
   - **A. Ramped approach**
   - **B. Automatic door opener**
   - **C. Minimum width of 1.2 meters**
   - **D. Level landing at entrance**

6. What is the minimum height required for a handrail on a stairway in a residential building?

A. 750 mm

B. 850 mm

C. 950 mm

D. 1050 mm

7. What is the minimum width required for a door in a residential building?

A. 0.8 meters

B. 0.9 meters

C. 1.0 meter

D. 1.1 meters

8. Which of the following is not a requirement for an accessible route in a residential building?

A. Ramp with handrails

B. Level landings at changes of direction

C. Minimum width of 0.9 meters

D. Non-slip surface

9. Which of the following is not a requirement for an accessible route in an industrial building?

A. Ramp with handrails

B. Level landings at changes of direction

C. Minimum width of 1.2 meters

D. Non-slip surface

10. Which of the following is not a requirement for a fire-rated door in a commercial building?

A. Self-closing

B. Labeled with a fire rating

C. Solid core construction

D. Minimum height of 2.0 meters

Answers

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

Explanations

1. Which of the following is not a requirement for a fire-rated column assembly in a residential building?

A. Labeled with a fire rating

B. Non-combustible materials

C. Continuous from floor to underside of roof sheathing

D. Minimum thickness of 75 mm

One possible explanation A fire-rated column assembly is designed to resist and contain the spread of fire within a building. It is important to ensure that all components of the assembly meet certain requirements to effectively perform this function. Option A is incorrect because a fire-rated column assembly must be clearly labeled with a fire rating to indicate its ability to withstand fire. This is necessary for building inspectors to verify compliance and for occupants to be aware of the level of fire protection provided. Option B is incorrect as non-combustible materials, such as steel, are required for fire-rated column assemblies. Combustible materials, such as wood, can contribute to the spread of fire and are not suitable for this purpose. Option C is incorrect because a fire-rated column assembly must be continuous from the floor to the underside of the roof sheathing. Any gaps or breaks in the assembly can allow fire and smoke to spread, compromising its effectiveness. The correct answer is option D because there is no minimum thickness requirement for a fire-rated column assembly. However, the materials used in the assembly must have the necessary fire-resistance properties to meet building code regulations. Simply having a minimum thickness does not guarantee fire resistance. In summary, the correct answer is not a requirement for

2. What is the minimum number of exits required for an industrial building with a capacity of 100 people?

A. 1

B. 2

C. 3

D. 4

For an industrial building with a capacity of 100 people, the Ontario Building Code specifies the need for at least two separate exits. This requirement is in place to ensure adequate safety in the event of an emergency, allowing for efficient egress from the building. When assessing the capacity of a building, it is critical to consider not just the total number of occupants, but also the potential hazards associated with industrial activities. An occupancy of 100 people suggests a higher risk profile due to the presence of machinery, chemicals, or other industrial processes. In emergencies, such as a fire or hazardous material release, having at least two exits ensures that all occupants can leave the building safely and swiftly, minimizing the potential for bottlenecks or injuries during evacuation. This code direction reflects general safety principles that apply to various types of occupancies. An adequate number of exits is essential to facilitate quick evacuation and reduce the risk of panic or physical harm. In this case, while having a single exit might suffice for very small and lower-risk buildings, the increased capacity and potential hazards inherent in an industrial setting necessitate the additional exit. This is why the correct answer emphasizes the importance of having a minimum of two exits.

3. What is the minimum number of accessible parking spaces required for a commercial building with 30 parking spaces?

A. 1

B. 2

C. 3

D. 4

Commercial buildings with 30 parking spaces must have at least 1 accessible parking space. This is because the minimum requirement for accessible parking spaces is 1 out of every 25 parking spots. Therefore, in this case, 30 divided by 25 is 1.2, which rounds down to 1 parking space. The other options are incorrect because they do not follow the minimum requirement for accessible parking spaces. 2 would be too many, 3 would be too many, and 4 would be far too many for a building with only 30 parking spaces. It is important to follow these regulations to ensure equal access and accommodations for individuals with disabilities.

4. Which of the following is not a requirement for a fire-rated ceiling assembly in a residential building?

A. Non-combustible materials

B. Labeled with a fire rating

C. Continuous from wall to wall

D. Minimum thickness of 50 mm

A minimum thickness of 50 mm is not a requirement for a fire-rated ceiling assembly in a residential building. The other options, non-combustible materials, labeled with a fire rating, and continuous from wall to wall, are all necessary for a fire-rated ceiling assembly. Non-combustible materials ensure that the ceiling will not catch fire easily, while being labeled with a fire rating allows for easy identification of the level of protection provided. A continuous ceiling from wall to wall helps prevent the spread of fire and smoke. A minimum thickness of 50 mm is not a requirement as long as the other elements are present and meet the necessary fire safety standards.

5. Which of the following is not a requirement for an accessible entrance in an industrial building?

A. Ramped approach

B. Automatic door opener

C. Minimum width of 1.2 meters

D. Level landing at entrance

An accessible entrance in an industrial building would typically require a ramped approach, automatic door opener, and a level landing at the entrance. These features would allow for wheelchair users or those with mobility impairments to easily enter the building. However, a minimum width of 1.2 meters is not a requirement for an accessible entrance. While a wider entrance may make it easier for individuals using mobility aids, it is not a mandatory requirement. Therefore, option C is incorrect as it is not necessary for an accessible entrance in an industrial building.

6. What is the minimum height required for a handrail on a stairway in a residential building?

A. 750 mm

B. 850 mm

C. 950 mm

D. 1050 mm

The minimum height required for a handrail on a stairway in a residential building is 850 mm. This ensures that the handrail is at a comfortable height for most adults to grip and can provide proper stability and support while using the stairs. Option A (750 mm) is generally too low and may not provide enough support for people with varying heights. Option C (950 mm) and D (1050 mm) are both too high and may not be easy for shorter individuals and children to reach. It is important to have a handrail at an appropriate height to promote safety and accessibility for all individuals in a residential building.

7. What is the minimum width required for a door in a residential building?

A. 0.8 meters

B. 0.9 meters

C. 1.0 meter

D. 1.1 meters

The correct minimum width required for a door in a residential building is 0.9 meters. This is because building codes and safety regulations typically mandate a minimum width of 0.9 meters for a door to allow for easy accessibility and evacuation in case of emergencies. Option A is too narrow and may not meet these requirements. Option C and D are wider than the recommended minimum and may not be necessary.

8. Which of the following is not a requirement for an accessible route in a residential building?

A. Ramp with handrails

B. Level landings at changes of direction

C. Minimum width of 0.9 meters

D. Non-slip surface

The requirement for an accessible route in a residential building emphasizes the importance of ensuring safe and convenient access for individuals with disabilities. Among the provided options, having a minimum width of 0.9 meters is indeed essential for accessibility, as it allows sufficient space for individuals using wheelchairs or mobility aids to pass through comfortably. However, to clarify, while the width of 0.9 meters is a standard guideline for accessibility, the actual minimum width required in Ontario's Building Code may vary depending on the specific context and details of the building, such as the number of users or the type of access required. The other choices highlight critical aspects of an accessible route: ramps with handrails provide support for people who may need help navigating slopes, level landings at changes of direction improve safety and usability by allowing individuals to navigate without the risk of falling, and a non-slip surface is essential to prevent accidents, especially in wet or icy conditions. Each of these factors contributes to a safer and more functional environment for users, reinforcing the overall goal of accessibility in residential buildings.

9. Which of the following is not a requirement for an accessible route in an industrial building?

A. Ramp with handrails

B. Level landings at changes of direction

C. Minimum width of 1.2 meters

D. Non-slip surface

An accessible route in an industrial building requires a ramp with handrails, level landings at changes of direction, and a non-slip surface. These features ensure that individuals with mobility impairments can navigate the building safely. Option C, requiring a minimum width of 1.2 meters, is incorrect because the minimum width requirement for accessible routes in an industrial building is actually 1.4 meters. This extra width allows for easier navigation for individuals using mobility aids such as wheelchairs or walkers. Option A, B, and D are all correct requirements for an accessible route in an industrial building, making them incorrect choices for the answer to this question.

10. Which of the following is not a requirement for a fire-rated door in a commercial building?

A. Self-closing

B. Labeled with a fire rating

C. Solid core construction

D. Minimum height of 2.0 meters

A fire-rated door is designed to prevent the spread of fire and smoke within a building for a certain amount of time. To achieve this, a fire-rated door must meet certain requirements including being self-closing, labeled with a fire rating, and having a solid core construction. These features are crucial in containing a fire and minimizing its damage. Option D, minimum height of 2.0 meters, is not a requirement for a fire-rated door. The height of a door does not affect its ability to prevent the spread of fire and smoke. This option may be included in building codes or regulations regarding accessibility, but it is not directly related to the fire safety of the door.