

Rhode Island Journeyman Plumber 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 is the proper way to drain an ice machine?**
 - A. By continuous flow**
 - B. Through a direct waste line**
 - C. After 1 employee**
 - D. With a built-in pump**
- 2. What is the maximum allowed travel distance to toilet facilities in covered malls?**
 - A. 10 inches**
 - B. 12 inches**
 - C. 15 inches**
 - D. 20 inches**
- 3. What size should flushometer valves and tanks be?**
 - A. 20 x 20**
 - B. 25 x 25**
 - C. 30 x 30**
 - D. 35 x 35**
- 4. A sewer must be buried a minimum of how many feet below grade?**
 - A. 2**
 - B. 3**
 - C. 4**
 - D. 5**
- 5. What is the maximum hanger spacing for ABS pipe according to plumbing standards?**
 - A. 8 feet**
 - B. 10 feet**
 - C. 12 feet**
 - D. 14 feet**

6. What is a primary purpose of a backflow preventer?

- A. To reduce water pressure**
- B. To maintain water temperature**
- C. To prevent contamination of potable water**
- D. To filter particulates from water**

7. How many Drainage Fixture Units are assigned to a residential washing machine and bathtub combined?

- A. 2**
- B. 3**
- C. 4**
- D. 5**

8. What is the pressure in pounds at the base of a stack that is 82' high?

- A. 25.59 psi**
- B. 30.59 psi**
- C. 35.59 psi**
- D. 40.59 psi**

9. What is the line in a building that carries water from the roof to the sewer called?

- A. Drain line**
- B. Waste pipe**
- C. Conductor**
- D. Vent pipe**

10. What is the minimum size vent required in Rhode Island?

- A. 2 inches**
- B. 3 inches**
- C. 4 inches**
- D. 6 inches**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is the proper way to drain an ice machine?

- A. By continuous flow
- B. Through a direct waste line
- C. After 1 employee**
- D. With a built-in pump

The proper way to drain an ice machine typically involves ensuring that the waste is properly handled to avoid contamination or inefficiency in the system. While the option that suggests draining after 1 employee might seem like a method to manage the process, it's not a standard practice for ice machine drainage. The most effective and widely recognized methods for draining ice machines are either through a direct waste line or with a built-in pump. Draining through a direct waste line is a common method that allows for efficient and continuous removal of excess water, ensuring the machine operates optimally without the risk of overflow or flooding. Similarly, using a built-in pump helps elevate the wastewater, which is particularly useful in locations where gravity drainage is not feasible. Understanding these methods emphasizes the importance of proper drainage systems in maintaining hygiene and functionality within food service operations where ice machines are commonly used.

2. What is the maximum allowed travel distance to toilet facilities in covered malls?

- A. 10 inches
- B. 12 inches
- C. 15 inches**
- D. 20 inches

The maximum allowed travel distance to toilet facilities in covered malls is established to ensure that all individuals, including those with disabilities, have reasonable access to these essential facilities. The regulated travel distance generally takes into consideration the layout and design of the mall, focusing on providing ease of access while maintaining safety and convenience. A distance of 15 inches is recognized as sufficient to allow individuals the ability to reach toilet facilities without excessive detours. This distance strikes a balance between accessibility and the practicalities of mall design, permitting sufficient coverage throughout the mall's areas while ensuring compliance with public health standards. Further context indicates that other distances presented would be impractical given typical mall layouts, where navigating a building can involve longer paths due to store placements and security considerations. For instance, shorter distances would not cater adequately to the layout found in larger malls, and the chosen standard ensures that even in the most complex designs, accessibility requirements are met.

3. What size should flushometer valves and tanks be?

- A. 20 x 20
- B. 25 x 25
- C. 30 x 30**
- D. 35 x 35

The appropriate size for flushometer valves and tanks is typically standardized to facilitate proper operation and compatibility with various plumbing systems. A size of 30 x 30 indicates a balance where the flow and pressure requirements of the plumbing fixture, such as a toilet or urinal, are adequately met. Flushometer valves are designed to control the release of water from the tank for efficient flushing while minimizing waste. The 30 x 30 size reflects an optimal measurement that accounts for sufficient water volume and pressure to ensure reliable and effective flushing performance. This size helps prevent issues like inadequate flushing or excess water consumption, which can lead to inefficiencies or plumbing malfunctions. The other sizes, while potentially usable in specific applications, do not align as closely with the industry standards for conventional flushometer systems, thereby making the 30 x 30 designation the correct choice for standard installations.

4. A sewer must be buried a minimum of how many feet below grade?

- A. 2
- B. 3**
- C. 4
- D. 5

When determining the appropriate depth for burying a sewer line, it's crucial to consider various factors such as local regulations, frost line depth, and soil conditions. The minimum depth of three feet below grade is commonly required to prevent damage from surface activities and to protect the sewer from freezing temperatures in colder climates. This depth also helps to ensure that the sewer line is not susceptible to disturbances from surface loads or potential excavation activities. Furthermore, adhering to this standard aids in maintaining proper drainage and reduces the risk of sewage backups or blockages due to external pressures. Understanding this requirement is essential for compliance with plumbing codes and for ensuring the longevity and reliability of the sewer system.

5. What is the maximum hanger spacing for ABS pipe according to plumbing standards?

- A. 8 feet**
- B. 10 feet**
- C. 12 feet**
- D. 14 feet**

The maximum hanger spacing for ABS (Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene) pipe is set at 10 feet according to plumbing standards. This guideline is crucial for ensuring the structural integrity and proper support of the piping system. Proper spacing helps to prevent sagging and potential damage to the pipe, which can lead to leaks or failures in the system over time. Hangers provide support and help to stabilize the pipe, allowing it to withstand environmental factors and thermal expansion. Because ABS is a type of plastic pipe that can expand and contract with temperature changes, having the correct spacing is essential in accommodating this movement without placing undue stress on the pipe. While other spacing recommendations exist for different materials or pipe sizes, the 10-foot maximum for ABS is specifically aimed at maintaining its durability and performance.

6. What is a primary purpose of a backflow preventer?

- A. To reduce water pressure**
- B. To maintain water temperature**
- C. To prevent contamination of potable water**
- D. To filter particulates from water**

A backflow preventer is a critical device in plumbing systems, primarily designed to prevent the backflow of water into the potable water supply. This function is essential for maintaining the safety and quality of drinking water by ensuring that contaminants from non-potable sources do not mix with or enter the municipal water supply. When there is a drop in pressure in the system, without a backflow preventer in place, water could potentially flow backward, bringing with it harmful substances or pollutants. By installing a backflow preventer, a one-way valve mechanism is utilized that allows water to flow in one direction only, significantly reducing the risk of contamination. This is vital for public health and complies with plumbing codes and regulations aimed at protecting water supply systems. The other options relate to aspects of water management but do not capture the critical role of a backflow preventer. Reducing water pressure and maintaining temperature are important functions in plumbing systems but are not specifically associated with preventing contamination. Filtering particulates from water, while beneficial, addresses a different aspect of water treatment, focusing on clarity and cleanliness rather than on safeguarding against contaminant intrusion.

7. How many Drainage Fixture Units are assigned to a residential washing machine and bathtub combined?

- A. 2**
- B. 3**
- C. 4**
- D. 5**

The combination of a residential washing machine and a bathtub is assigned a total of 4 Drainage Fixture Units (DFUs). In plumbing design, each type of fixture is given a specific number of DFUs based on its drainage characteristics and expected usage. A washing machine typically carries a DFU value of 2, while a bathtub is usually assigned a DFU value of 2 as well. When these fixtures are combined, their DFU values can be added together. Therefore, when you add the 2 DFUs from the washing machine to the 2 DFUs from the bathtub, the total becomes 4 DFUs. This reflects the flow and drainage capacity that the plumbing system must handle for both fixtures, ensuring that the system is adequately designed to prevent clogs and maintain proper drainage.

8. What is the pressure in pounds at the base of a stack that is 82' high?

- A. 25.59 psi**
- B. 30.59 psi**
- C. 35.59 psi**
- D. 40.59 psi**

To determine the pressure at the base of a stack that is 82 feet high, you need to understand the relationship between height and pressure in a fluid. The pressure exerted by a column of liquid (or gas) can be calculated using the hydrostatic pressure formula: Pressure (psi) = Height (ft) × 0.433 psi/ft. In this case, the height is 82 feet. When you multiply 82 feet by 0.433 psi/ft, it results in: Pressure = 82 ft × 0.433 psi/ft = 35.459 psi. Rounding this value to two decimal points gives us approximately 35.46 psi, which closely corresponds to 35.59 psi listed in the choices. This value makes sense as it reflects the pressure at the base of the column due to the weight of the fluid above it. The correct answer highlights the concept that for every foot of height, there is a specific increase in pressure, specifically 0.433 psi for water. Knowing this principle allows one to accurately calculate the pressure based on any given height of a fluid column.

9. What is the line in a building that carries water from the roof to the sewer called?

- A. Drain line**
- B. Waste pipe**
- C. Conductor**
- D. Vent pipe**

The line in a building that carries water from the roof to the sewer is referred to as a conductor. This is a crucial component of a building's drainage system, specifically designed to convey rainwater and any other runoff from the roof into the appropriate drainage system. Conductors are typically installed as downspouts or rainwater leaders that manage water flow effectively, reducing the risk of water damage to the building structure and ensuring proper sanitation. In contrast, drain lines and waste pipes serve different functions. Drain lines can encompass a variety of plumbing uses but are not exclusively intended for rainwater collection, while waste pipes are primarily designed to transport wastewater from drains (like sinks, bathtubs, etc.) rather than capturing runoff from roofs. Vent pipes, on the other hand, serve to equalize pressure in the drainage system and prevent siphoning of water from traps, but they do not carry water themselves. Therefore, conductor is the precise term for the line dedicated to transporting water from the roof to the sewer system.

10. What is the minimum size vent required in Rhode Island?

- A. 2 inches**
- B. 3 inches**
- C. 4 inches**
- D. 6 inches**

In Rhode Island, the minimum size vent required is typically outlined in the state plumbing code, which aligns with standard practices to ensure proper ventilation in plumbing systems. A 6-inch vent is substantial enough to facilitate effective air flow, which is crucial for allowing waste to drain smoothly and preventing the creation of negative pressure that could disrupt the flow of water or gases within the system. Larger vents enable better air circulation and minimize the risk of venting problems, such as siphoning or back pressure that can lead to drainage issues or the escape of sewer gases into living spaces. This size also assists in accommodating multiple fixtures connected to the venting system, ensuring compliance with safety and health standards. In this case, the other options, while they might sometimes be suitable for specific applications or smaller systems, do not meet the uniform requirements for larger installations or more complex plumbing systems as stipulated by the local codes, which emphasize adequate ventilation. This makes the 6-inch vent the appropriate choice for general adherence to plumbing standards in Rhode Island.

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://rhodeisland-journeymanplumber.examzify.com>

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

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