

SDI HAMMER-FIRED PISTOLS (FTH 223) PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



**SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE
WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS**

**VISIT US ONLINE FOR
THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE**

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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. Controlled feed involves guiding the rim of the cartridge underneath the extractor as the slide moves forward.

- A. Controlled feed involves guiding the rim of the cartridge underneath the extractor as the slide moves forward.
- B. Controlled feed and push feed are identical concepts with no significant differences in their mechanisms.
- C. Push feed relies on the extractor popping over the rim of the cartridge, similar to controlled feed.
- D. Controlled feed allows the rim of the cartridge to sit in front of the extractor during the forward movement of the slide.

2. Describe a safe speed reload procedure.

- A. Eject the spent magazine, insert a fresh one, and slam the slide forward.
- B. Quickly reload by slapping the magazine without checking chamber.
- C. Drop the spent magazine, insert a fresh one, then rack to chamber a round while keeping muzzle pointed safely.
- D. Remove the pistol from service and hand it to another shooter.

3. Which practice aligns with basic trigger discipline?

- A. Keep finger off the trigger until ready to shoot
- B. Keep finger on the trigger while moving
- C. Keep finger in the trigger guard when holstering
- D. Keep finger on the hammer

4. What is the reason for avoiding power-tools in gunsmithing?

- A. They are always necessary
- B. They provide the best control
- C. They can quickly ruin components
- D. They are never used

5. How do you determine the correct ammunition for your pistol?

- A. Use ammunition specified by the manufacturer for your model and caliber; check packaging and markings.
- B. Use any ammunition of similar size.
- C. Use reloaded ammunition only.
- D. Use high-velocity rounds regardless of caliber.

- 6. What lubrication approach is recommended for slide rails?**
- A. Apply a light lubrication on the rails and contact surfaces; avoid excess that collects debris.
 - B. Heavily oil the rails for maximum smoothness.
 - C. Do not lubricate the rails at all.
 - D. Lubricate only the exterior frame surfaces.
- 7. What should you do if you observe damage to the pistol during maintenance?**
- A. Begin cleaning more thoroughly to remove damage.
 - B. Do not continue to use the firearm; isolate it and consult a qualified armorer or manufacturer.
 - C. Attempt to bend or weld the damaged part yourself.
 - D. Swap the firearm with a spare.
- 8. Which statement describes polymer coatings on steel?**
- A. A synthetic polymer coating is applied to steel surfaces
 - B. Anodizing is used on steel
 - C. Paint is not used on steel
 - D. Finishes do not involve polymers
- 9. Define Failure to Feed (FTF) and how would you address it?**
- A. Rack the slide and reseal the magazine, then attempt to chamber again.
 - B. Shake the pistol to loosen the cartridge.
 - C. Replace the entire firearm.
 - D. Disassemble the frame for inspection.
- 10. In the repair assessment of a firearm with a damaged hammer strut, which is crucial?**
- A. Ensure the firing and cocking steps are smooth and reliable.
 - B. Expedite the repair process by skipping the assessment and immediately replacing all damaged parts.
 - C. Prioritize visual aesthetics to ensure the repaired firearm looks brand new.
 - D. Disregard the assessment of the damaged part and focus solely on other components.

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Controlled feed involves guiding the rim of the cartridge underneath the extractor as the slide moves forward.

A. Controlled feed involves guiding the rim of the cartridge underneath the extractor as the slide moves forward.

B. Controlled feed and push feed are identical concepts with no significant differences in their mechanisms.

C. Push feed relies on the extractor popping over the rim of the cartridge, similar to controlled feed.

D. Controlled feed allows the rim of the cartridge to sit in front of the extractor during the forward movement of the slide.

In controlled feed the extractor actively retains and guides the cartridge rim as the slide moves forward, keeping the rim under the extractor so the round is carried smoothly into the chamber. This arrangement makes feeding very reliable because the cartridge is captured early and cannot ride over the extractor, reducing misfeeds or jams. So the statement that the rim is guided underneath the extractor during forward movement describes this behavior accurately. In contrast, some other feed designs rely on the cartridge being pushed into the chamber with less control by the extractor, where the rim might not stay under the extractor and the extractor has to snap over the rim later, increasing the risk of feeding problems.

2. Describe a safe speed reload procedure.

A. Eject the spent magazine, insert a fresh one, and slam the slide forward.

B. Quickly reload by slapping the magazine without checking chamber.

C. Drop the spent magazine, insert a fresh one, then rack to chamber a round while keeping muzzle pointed safely.

D. Remove the pistol from service and hand it to another shooter.

Safe speed reload means getting back into action quickly without losing control of the firearm or creating a safety risk. The best way to do this is to remove the spent magazine, insert a fresh one, and then rack the slide to chamber a round, all while keeping the muzzle pointed in a safe direction. This sequence clears the empty magazine slot, seats the new magazine so it can feed reliably, and uses a controlled slide movement to chamber a round from the new magazine. Keeping the muzzle safely aimed and your finger off the trigger throughout prevents any accidental discharge if something slips. This approach balances speed with solid safety discipline. Why the other options aren't preferred: simply slamming the slide forward can chamber a round but may promote unsafe handling or poor control, and it doesn't explicitly ensure the magazine is properly seated or that the chamber is confirmed loaded. Reloading without checking or ensuring proper chambering increases the risk of feeding issues or an accidental discharge. Removing the pistol from service or handing it to someone else is unsafe and defeats the purpose of a quick, controlled reload.

3. Which practice aligns with basic trigger discipline?

- A. Keep finger off the trigger until ready to shoot
- B. Keep finger on the trigger while moving
- C. Keep finger in the trigger guard when holstering
- D. Keep finger on the hammer

Trigger discipline is about preventing unintended discharges by controlling the finger position until you are ready to shoot. The safest habit is to keep the finger off the trigger and outside the trigger guard, resting along the frame or alongside the pistol, so a stumble, snag, or surprise movement can't press the trigger. That's why keeping the finger on the trigger while moving is risky—any jolt or slip could depress the trigger and fire unexpectedly. Keeping the finger in the trigger guard when holstering is unsafe for the same reason; it can press the trigger during the holster draw or reholster. Placing the finger on the hammer is also dangerous, because manipulating the hammer can lead to an unintended release or discharge if the pistol is not in a controlled state.

4. What is the reason for avoiding power-tools in gunsmithing?

- A. They are always necessary
- B. They provide the best control
- C. They can quickly ruin components
- D. They are never used

Power-tools are avoided in gunsmithing because precision and delicate tolerances matter, and power tools can compromise both. They remove material rapidly and with less tactile feedback, making it easy to overshoot, misalign parts, or alter critical engagement surfaces. The heat and vibration produced can warp or anneal metal, affect heat-treated components, or leave burrs and finish damage that impair reliability and safety. Even small dimensional changes can alter trigger pull, sear engagement, timing, or fit of components, leading to unsafe or unreliable operation. Therefore, hand tools, controlled fixtures, and careful measurement are preferred to preserve integrity and function. There are rare, highly controlled cases where machinery is used by skilled professionals, but the general practice is to avoid power-tools to prevent damaging components.

5. How do you determine the correct ammunition for your pistol?

- A. Use ammunition specified by the manufacturer for your model and caliber; check packaging and markings.
- B. Use any ammunition of similar size.
- C. Use reloaded ammunition only.
- D. Use high-velocity rounds regardless of caliber.

Use ammunition specified by the firearm's manufacturer for your exact model and caliber, and verify this on the packaging and markings. This matters because the pistol is designed to handle a specific pressure, velocity, and cartridge dimensions. Matching the manufacturer's ammunition ensures reliable feeding, safe chamber pressure, and proper function of the action and safety features. Relying on similar-sized ammo can still mean the wrong case dimensions or pressure, reloaded ammunition can vary in charge and consistency, and high-velocity rounds can push pressures beyond what the pistol is designed to safely withstand. Always check the package for the correct caliber, model compatibility, and any manufacturer warnings to keep the pistol safe and reliable.

6. What lubrication approach is recommended for slide rails?

- A. Apply a light lubrication on the rails and contact surfaces; avoid excess that collects debris.**
- B. Heavily oil the rails for maximum smoothness.
- C. Do not lubricate the rails at all.
- D. Lubricate only the exterior frame surfaces.

Lubricating the slide rails is about creating a thin, even film on the moving surfaces to reduce friction and protect against wear. A light coating on the rails and contact points lets the metal glide smoothly as the slide cycles, helping to keep the action consistent and quiet while minimizing wear and the potential for rust. Excess lubricant, on the other hand, can trap dirt, dust, and debris. As the pistol is operated, that buildup mixes with the oil and creates a grinding paste that accelerates wear and can cause malfunctions. Not lubricating at all leaves the rails dry and more prone to galling and wear, especially under heat and fouling. Lubricating only exterior frame surfaces doesn't protect the moving interfaces where lubrication is essential. So the best approach is a light, even film on the rails and contact surfaces, with any excess wiped away to prevent debris collection.

7. What should you do if you observe damage to the pistol during maintenance?

- A. Begin cleaning more thoroughly to remove damage.
- B. Do not continue to use the firearm; isolate it and consult a qualified armorer or manufacturer.**
- C. Attempt to bend or weld the damaged part yourself.
- D. Swap the firearm with a spare.

When you spot damage during maintenance, the important idea is to stop using the firearm and get it evaluated by a professional. Damage can mean the firearm may not operate safely, so isolating it prevents accidental use or a failure under pressure. A qualified armorer or the manufacturer has the training, tools, and Parts to assess the extent of the damage, determine if a repair is possible, and ensure any replacement parts meet factory specifications. This is essential for maintaining reliability and safety. Trying to fix it yourself—such as bending or welding the damaged part—creates new safety risks and can compromise the weapon's design, making it less safe or unusable. Simply cleaning more won't address a mechanical issue that could fail during operation. Having a spare might be convenient, but it doesn't solve the underlying damaged firearm; the correct action is to isolate and seek professional evaluation.

8. Which statement describes polymer coatings on steel?

- A. A synthetic polymer coating is applied to steel surfaces**
- B. Anodizing is used on steel
- C. Paint is not used on steel
- D. Finishes do not involve polymers

Polymer coatings are protective films made from polymer resins that are applied to metal surfaces to prevent corrosion and wear. Saying that a synthetic polymer coating is applied to steel surfaces accurately describes what polymer coatings are and what they do. Anodizing is an electrochemical process mainly used for aluminum (not a polymer coating on steel), so it doesn't describe polymer coatings on steel. Paint is indeed a polymer-based coating, so claiming it isn't used on steel would be incorrect. Finishes often involve polymers, so saying finishes do not involve polymers isn't true either. Therefore, the statement about applying a synthetic polymer coating to steel surfaces best describes polymer coatings on steel.

9. Define Failure to Feed (FTF) and how would you address it?

- A. Rack the slide and reseal the magazine, then attempt to chamber again.
- B. Shake the pistol to loosen the cartridge.**
- C. Replace the entire firearm.
- D. Disassemble the frame for inspection.

Failure to feed means a cartridge from the magazine doesn't move into the chamber as the slide cycles, so the firearm fails to chamber a round and fire. The proper way to address this is to ensure the firearm is being handled safely, then rack the slide firmly to cycle a round and reseal the magazine, and try to chamber again. This action helps align the next cartridge with the chamber and confirms the magazine is properly seated. If the issue persists, inspect the magazine for damage or wear, verify the ammunition compatibility, and check the firearm for any feed-related faults. Avoid shaking the pistol to loosen a cartridge, as that is not a reliable or recommended remedy and can create safety risks or worsen the malfunction.

10. In the repair assessment of a firearm with a damaged hammer strut, which is crucial?

- A. Ensure the firing and cocking steps are smooth and reliable.**
- B. Expedite the repair process by skipping the assessment and immediately replacing all damaged parts.
- C. Prioritize visual aesthetics to ensure the repaired firearm looks brand new.
- D. Disregard the assessment of the damaged part and focus solely on other components.

When evaluating a damaged hammer strut, the key idea is to confirm the hammer mechanism operates smoothly and reliably. The hammer strut is part of the path that lets the hammer cock and then fall when triggered. If it's damaged, you can get rough, binding, or inconsistent movement, which can lead to misfires or a hammer that doesn't drop properly. So the crucial step in the repair assessment is to verify that both the cocking action and the firing action cycle cleanly and consistently after any repair work. This ensures the firearm will operate safely and as intended. Skipping the assessment and rushing to replace parts, or focusing on aesthetics, or ignoring the damaged component altogether, misses the essential goal: guaranteeing safe, reliable function.

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://sdifh223.examzify.com>

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

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