SDI Striker-Fired Pistols (FTH 212) Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide

Everything you need from our exam experts!

Table of Contents

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

1. When measuring trigger pull on a firearm with a trigger-mounted safety, what should the gauge do?

A. Disengage the safety before measurement

B. Engage the safety in addition to the trigger

C. Safety engagement is not relevant to measurement accuracy

D. The gauge should avoid contacting the safety during measurement

2. Which of the following correctly identifies the barrel length measurement?

A. The distance from the muzzle to the grip

B. The distance from the breech face to the crown.

C. The distance from the chamber to the muzzle

D. The distance from the throat to the muzzle

3. Which modification is commonly used to alter grip texture?

A. Stippling

B. Window Cutting

C. Porting

D. Sight Upgrades

4. Which statement about trigger weight and trigger feel is correct?

A. They Are the Same

B. They Are Different

C. There Is No Relation

D. Not Specified

5. Which common gunsmithing task typically requires the use of a small ball peen hammer?

A. Finishing a fragile surface with a rubber mallet

B. Verifying the fit of a non-ferrous pin with a punch

C. Patching superficial scratches with a cloth

D. When applying force directly to the firearm, but needing to protect the delicate finish on the firearm

6. Which tool is designed to address tight areas within a firearm during fitting and finishing?

A. Ball-peen hammer

B. Files, including needle files

C. Punch set

D. Pliers

7. Which statement best reflects proper practice for loose iron sights?

A. Epoxying is the best long-term fix.

B. Epoxying may be used temporarily, but proper mounting methods are preferred.

C. Epoxying is never acceptable.

D. Proper mounting or securing methods should be used instead of epoxy.

8. Which of the following statements about action types is accurate for semi-automatic pistols chambered for low-pressure rimfire cartridges?

A. Blowback action

B. Gas-operated action

C. Lever-action

D. Rotating bolt action

9. Measuring between what surfaces constitutes correct barrel length?

A. The distance from the breech face to the crown.

B. The distance from the muzzle to the grip.

C. The distance from the chamber to the muzzle.

D. The distance from the throat to the muzzle.

10. What are some pros that a sight pusher has over using a hammer and punch when installing iron sights?

A. Cost and installation speed

B. Accuracy and damage mitigation

C. Fabrication and cost

D. Flexibility and accuracy

Answers

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

Explanations

1. When measuring trigger pull on a firearm with a trigger-mounted safety, what should the gauge do?

A. Disengage the safety before measurement

B. Engage the safety in addition to the trigger

C. Safety engagement is not relevant to measurement accuracy

D. The gauge should avoid contacting the safety during measurement

When a trigger-mounted safety is part of the firing mechanism, the safety adds extra resistance in the trigger path. To get an accurate trigger-pull reading, the measuring gauge must interact with both parts—the safety and the trigger—so it measures the full force required to move the safety and then release the trigger. This reflects how the gun actually operates and prevents underestimating the pull. Bypassing or ignoring the safety would give a reading that doesn't represent real use, while engaging the safety along with the trigger provides the correct measurement path.

2. Which of the following correctly identifies the barrel length measurement?

A. The distance from the muzzle to the grip

B. The distance from the breech face to the crown.

C. The distance from the chamber to the muzzle

D. The distance from the throat to the muzzle

Barrel length is measured from the breech face to the muzzle crown. The breech face is the rear of the barrel where the cartridge sits and seals when the action is closed, and the crown is the end of the bore at the muzzle where the bullet exits. This gives a consistent, true length of the portion of the barrel that guides andhouses the bullet from start to exit, independent of grips or other parts of the gun. The other descriptions don't match how barrel length is defined. Measuring to the grip covers other gun dimensions (overall length), while measuring from the chamber or throat to the muzzle omits part of the barrel behind the chamber or rifling area, which isn't how barrel length is standardized.

3. Which modification is commonly used to alter grip texture?

A. Stippling

B. Window Cutting

C. Porting

D. Sight Upgrades

Altering grip texture is about increasing the friction between your hand and the grip to improve control, especially in sweaty or stressful conditions. Stippling directly changes the grip's surface by roughening it with a heated tool or abrasive to create a pattern of tiny raised texture. This added grip bite helps you maintain a steadier hold and more consistent control from shot to shot. It's a common modification on polymer-framed pistols because it's customizable to hand size and preference and relatively straightforward to do. The other options adjust different aspects: window cutting alters grip shape by removing material rather than adding texture; porting affects muzzle behavior to reduce recoil rather than grip feel; sight upgrades change aiming devices, not the grip surface. So stippling is the standard way to alter grip texture.

4. Which statement about trigger weight and trigger feel is correct?

A. They Are the Same

B. They Are Different

C. There Is No Relation

D. Not Specified

Trigger weight and trigger feel describe different aspects of pulling the trigger. Trigger weight is the actual force you must apply to move the trigger to the point of firing—the objective load measured in pounds or ounces. Trigger feel, on the other hand, is the subjective sensation you experience as the trigger travels and breaks—the smoothness, any creep or stacking, the wall before the break, and the reset. They're related because changes in weight often influence how the trigger feels, but they are not the same thing. You can have a light trigger weight with a gritty, stiff feel, or a heavier weight that still moves smoothly with little resistance. Understanding both helps you gauge how hard you must pull and how the trigger responds during travel, which affects timing and control in shooting.

5. Which common gunsmithing task typically requires the use of a small ball peen hammer?

A. Finishing a fragile surface with a rubber mallet

B. Verifying the fit of a non-ferrous pin with a punch

C. Patching superficial scratches with a cloth

D. When applying force directly to the firearm, but needing to protect the delicate finish on the firearm

Choosing the right tool to apply a controlled strike to firearm parts when the finish is delicate. A small ball peen hammer is typically used in this situation because its rounded face concentrates the impact in a controlled way while spreading force enough to avoid gouging, making it safer for delicate finishes than a flat-faced hammer. This lets you drive pins or seat components that are close to the surface with a measured blow without marring the finish. In contrast, a rubber mallet is gentler but may not deliver the precise, focused force needed in tight spaces, and the other options describe tasks that don't involve delivering a direct hammer blow to the firearm. Patching scratches or verifying pin fit rely on other tools or methods, so they aren't the best fit here.

6. Which tool is designed to address tight areas within a firearm during fitting and finishing?

A. Ball-peen hammer

B. Files, including needle files

C. Punch set

D. Pliers

When fitting and finishing a firearm, you need to remove small amounts of metal precisely in confined spaces. Files, including needle files, are built for that kind of careful material removal. They come in a variety of shapes and cuts, so you can choose exactly how aggressive the cut is and reach tight curves or corners. Needle files are especially useful for accessing narrow areas and contour work, allowing you to smooth surfaces and remove burrs without overdoing material removal. Other tools don't fit this purpose as well. A ball-peen hammer shapes and forms metal but isn't suitable for controlled finishing in tight spots and can deform surfaces. A punch set is for driving pins, not shaping or removing material. Pliers are for gripping or bending, not finishing or precisely slimming tolerances.

7. Which statement best reflects proper practice for loose iron sights?

A. Epoxying is the best long-term fix.

B. Epoxying may be used temporarily, but proper mounting methods are preferred.

C. Epoxying is never acceptable.

D. Proper mounting or securing methods should be used instead of epoxy.

Main concept: securing iron sights reliably means using the firearm's intended mounting or securing methods rather than adhesives. Epoxy can seem convenient, but it isn't dependable under recoil, heat, or cleaning cycles, and it often makes future removal or re-zeroing difficult or unsafe. Proper mounting—using the correct screws, pins, or clamps designed for the sight and gun—provides stable alignment, is adjustable if needed, and can be inspected, maintained, or replaced without damage. While epoxy might be used temporarily in a pinch, the best practice is to secure the sights with proper mounting methods.

8. Which of the following statements about action types is accurate for semi-automatic pistols chambered for low-pressure rimfire cartridges?

A. Blowback action

B. Gas-operated action

C. Lever-action

D. Rotating bolt action

For semi-auto pistols firing low-pressure rimfire cartridges, the simple blowback design is the most practical and common. In a blowback system there's no locked breach—the slide is held closed primarily by its own mass and the recoil spring. When a round fires, the pressure pushes the cartridge case backward against the slide, and that force drives the slide rearward. As the slide moves, it extracts and ejects the spent casing, then the spring pushes the slide forward to chamber the next round. The low peak pressure of rimfire cartridges like the .22 LR makes this straightforward arrangement reliable and cost-effective, because there's enough energy to cycle the action without needing additional locking mechanisms. Gas-operated designs would add complexity by routing a portion of the gas back to cycle the action, which isn't needed here due to the low pressure. Lever-action is a rifle-style mechanism not suited to standard semi-auto pistols. Rotating bolt actions involve locking the bolt and are also more typical of rifles, not rimfire pistols.

9. Measuring between what surfaces constitutes correct barrel length?

A. The distance from the breech face to the crown.

B. The distance from the muzzle to the grip.

C. The distance from the chamber to the muzzle.

D. The distance from the throat to the muzzle.

Barrel length is defined by the distance from the breech face—the rear surface of the chamber where the cartridge sits—to the crown, the end of the rifled bore at the muzzle. This measures the actual length of the part of the barrel that influences the bullet as it's accelerated and spun by the rifling. It provides a consistent reference point across firearms and stays true even if a muzzle device is added. Measuring from the muzzle to the grip would reflect overall length or external dimensions, not the rifled portion. From the chamber to the muzzle starts at the chamber area and doesn't specifically reference the rear of the bore, leading to inconsistency. From the throat to the muzzle omits part of the rifled bore near the breech, giving an inaccurate representation of the barrel's true length.

10. What are some pros that a sight pusher has over using a hammer and punch when installing iron sights?

A. Cost and installation speed

B. Accuracy and damage mitigation

C. Fabrication and cost

D. Flexibility and accuracy

Precision in sight installation comes from controlled, axial force and proper alignment. A sight pusher is designed to hold the slide and sight steady and push straight in or out, so the sight sits square and at the correct height, which directly translates to better accuracy. It also protects the slide finish and the sight by distributing force evenly and avoiding hammer blows that can mar the slide, deform the dovetail, or ding the firearm. In contrast, using a hammer and punch relies on percussive force and manual alignment, which can slip, tilt, or damage the parts, making accurate seating harder.

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://sdifth212.examzify.com

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