

South Carolina Gun Laws & Firearms Safety Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

Copyright © 2025 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.

Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain from reliable sources accurate, complete, and timely information about this product.

SAMPLE

Questions

- 1. Are armor-piercing bullets legal in South Carolina?**
 - A. Yes, with restrictions**
 - B. No, they are banned**
 - C. Yes, without any restrictions**
 - D. Only for law enforcement**
- 2. Are 'No Gun' signs legally enforceable in South Carolina?**
 - A. Yes, in all cases**
 - B. No, they're not enforceable**
 - C. Yes, but only with proper legal text**
 - D. Yes, if they meet specific size requirements**
- 3. What type of firearm transfer requires a background check in South Carolina?**
 - A. All firearm transfers**
 - B. Transfers through a licensed dealer**
 - C. Private transfers**
 - D. Transfers at gun shows**
- 4. Can individuals legally open carry handguns in South Carolina without a permit?**
 - A. Yes, without any restrictions**
 - B. Yes, but only in rural areas**
 - C. No**
 - D. Yes, but only with a special permit**
- 5. Which of the following places is it generally illegal to carry a firearm in South Carolina?**
 - A. State parks**
 - B. Places of worship**
 - C. Bars and restaurants**
 - D. Courthouses**

- 6. Are assault weapons banned in South Carolina?**
- A. Yes**
 - B. No**
 - C. Yes, but only for civilians**
 - D. Yes, but only in certain cities**
- 7. Do you need a permit to purchase a handgun in South Carolina?**
- A. Yes, always**
 - B. No, but registration is required**
 - C. No, a permit is not required**
 - D. Yes, but only for residents of another state**
- 8. Under South Carolina law, which of the following statements about storing firearms in homes with children is true?**
- A. Firearms must be stored unloaded and locked**
 - B. Firearms must be stored unloaded but do not need to be locked**
 - C. There are no specific requirements for storing firearms**
 - D. Firearms must be stored in a manner inaccessible to children**
- 9. How long is a South Carolina Concealed Weapons Permit (CWP) valid before it needs to be renewed?**
- A. 2 years**
 - B. 5 years**
 - C. 10 years**
 - D. Lifetime**
- 10. What is required to legally sell a handgun to another individual in South Carolina?**
- A. A background check on the buyer**
 - B. Nothing, private sales are unregulated**
 - C. Bill of Sale**
 - D. The buyer's conceal carry permit**

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. Are armor-piercing bullets legal in South Carolina?

- A. Yes, with restrictions**
- B. No, they are banned**
- C. Yes, without any restrictions**
- D. Only for law enforcement**

In South Carolina, armor-piercing ammunition is legal but comes with specific restrictions. The law defines armor-piercing bullets as those designed primarily to penetrate armor or ballistic material. While individuals can possess them, certain regulations govern their sale, transfer, and use, particularly to ensure they are not misused or acquired by individuals not lawfully allowed to possess firearms. This legal framework acknowledges the need for responsible use while balancing the rights of firearm owners and ensuring public safety. Therefore, the correct response highlights the nuanced approach South Carolina takes regarding armor-piercing ammunition, encompassing the importance of restrictions aimed at regulating their use within the community.

2. Are 'No Gun' signs legally enforceable in South Carolina?

- A. Yes, in all cases**
- B. No, they're not enforceable**
- C. Yes, but only with proper legal text**
- D. Yes, if they meet specific size requirements**

Understanding the legal implications of 'No Gun' signs in South Carolina is crucial for gun owners and those carrying firearms in public spaces. The correct answer is that these signs can indeed be legally enforceable, but with specific conditions. In South Carolina, 'No Gun' signs are enforceable primarily in places that are permitted by law to restrict firearm carry. However, simply having a sign does not automatically translate to enforceability in every situation. There are particular requirements and contexts, such as private property rights and certain types of establishments, where these signs have legal weight. Thus, to further clarify, the enforceability of 'No Gun' signs can depend on additional legal frameworks, such as whether proper legal text is utilized or if the signs meet local ordinance requirements. In essence, while 'No Gun' signs are significant in communicating a property owner's intent and can be enforced in the appropriate contexts, they are not universally enforceable in all situations without regard to specific legal guidelines and requirements. This makes understanding the nuances essential for anyone carrying a firearm in South Carolina.

3. What type of firearm transfer requires a background check in South Carolina?

- A. All firearm transfers**
- B. Transfers through a licensed dealer**
- C. Private transfers**
- D. Transfers at gun shows**

Option A is incorrect because certain transfers, such as those between family members or for hunting or competitive shooting, do not require a background check in South Carolina. Option C is incorrect because private transfers between individuals who are residents of South Carolina do not require a background check. Option D is incorrect because although federal law requires licensed dealers at gun shows to perform background checks, some private sellers may not be required to do so. Transfers through licensed dealers in South Carolina are the only type of firearm transfer that require a background check in all cases. This ensures that the buyer does not have a criminal record or history of mental illness that would disqualify them from owning a firearm. This also helps prevent illegal sales to individuals who should not have access to firearms.

4. Can individuals legally open carry handguns in South Carolina without a permit?

- A. Yes, without any restrictions**
- B. Yes, but only in rural areas**
- C. No**
- D. Yes, but only with a special permit**

In South Carolina, individuals cannot legally open carry handguns without a permit. The law requires that individuals have a Concealed Weapons Permit (CWP) to carry a handgun, whether concealed or openly. This regulation is in place to ensure that individuals who wish to carry firearms have undergone the necessary background checks and training to promote public safety. While there may be discussions or movements around changing open carry laws, as of the latest updates, the state has not permitted open carry without a permit. Therefore, the requirement for a permit serves as a way to regulate and monitor handgun ownership and usage within the state, reinforcing responsible gun ownership practices.

5. Which of the following places is it generally illegal to carry a firearm in South Carolina?

- A. State parks**
- B. Places of worship**
- C. Bars and restaurants**
- D. Courthouses**

In South Carolina, courthouses are designated as places where carrying firearms is generally prohibited. This restriction is part of efforts to maintain safety and security in judicial settings, where the presence of weapons could compromise the legal process or create an environment of intimidation. Courthouses are critical locations for legal proceedings and the fair administration of justice, making it imperative to restrict firearms to prevent disruptions and ensure a secure atmosphere for all those involved, including judges, jurors, and the public. In contrast, while places of worship, bars and restaurants, and state parks have specific regulations regarding firearm carry, they do not have the same outright prohibition as courthouses. For instance, there may be allowances or specific conditions under which firearms can be carried in those settings, subject to local laws and regulations. Understanding these distinctions is crucial for responsible firearm ownership and compliance with South Carolina law.

6. Are assault weapons banned in South Carolina?

- A. Yes**
- B. No**
- C. Yes, but only for civilians**
- D. Yes, but only in certain cities**

In South Carolina, assault weapons are not banned. The state does not have specific legislation targeting the possession or sale of firearms that are classified as assault weapons at the state level. Various gun control measures may exist in different jurisdictions, but there is no overarching state law that prohibits civilians from owning or using assault weapons. It's important to recognize that while federal regulations exist regarding certain types of firearms, South Carolina law allows individuals to possess a wide range of firearms, including those that may be categorized as assault weapons under different definitions. Understanding the distinctions between state laws and federal regulations is crucial, as it informs gun owners about their rights and responsibilities in managing firearms legally within South Carolina.

7. Do you need a permit to purchase a handgun in South Carolina?

- A. Yes, always**
- B. No, but registration is required**
- C. No, a permit is not required**
- D. Yes, but only for residents of another state**

In South Carolina, you do not need a permit to purchase a handgun. This means that individuals who are legally allowed to own firearms can buy handguns without needing to obtain a specific permit beforehand. The state does not require a gun registration process for handguns either, so this option correctly reflects the state's regulations surrounding handgun purchases. Understanding this context is important because it clarifies the state's stance on gun ownership and purchasing processes, differentiating South Carolina from states that have more stringent requirements such as mandatory permits or firearm registrations.

8. Under South Carolina law, which of the following statements about storing firearms in homes with children is true?

- A. Firearms must be stored unloaded and locked**
- B. Firearms must be stored unloaded but do not need to be locked**
- C. There are no specific requirements for storing firearms**
- D. Firearms must be stored in a manner inaccessible to children**

In South Carolina, it is imperative for firearm owners to prioritize safety, especially in homes with children. The correct statement about storing firearms is that firearms must be stored in a manner that is inaccessible to children. This emphasizes the responsibility of gun owners to ensure that firearms are kept out of reach and safely secured to prevent accidental access by children. While options that mention firearms being unloaded and locked may offer additional safety benefits, the law specifically underscores the need for firearms to be stored in a way that keeps them out of children's reach, focusing on preventing dangerous situations. The lack of specified legal requirements regarding locking mechanisms or unloaded status in the broader sense allows for some flexibility, but the fundamental principle of safety around children remains critical. Ensuring that firearms are inaccessible serves as a basic, yet essential guideline for responsible firearm ownership and child safety.

9. How long is a South Carolina Concealed Weapons Permit (CWP) valid before it needs to be renewed?

- A. 2 years**
- B. 5 years**
- C. 10 years**
- D. Lifetime**

A CWP in South Carolina is valid for 5 years before it needs to be renewed. Option A, 2 years, is too short of a time period for a valid CWP. Option C, 10 years, is too long, as CWP's in South Carolina need to be renewed every 5 years. Option D, lifetime, is also incorrect as CWP's do not have a lifetime validity and must be renewed every 5 years in South Carolina.

10. What is required to legally sell a handgun to another individual in South Carolina?

- A. A background check on the buyer**
- B. Nothing, private sales are unregulated**
- C. Bill of Sale**
- D. The buyer's conceal carry permit**

Private sales of handguns in South Carolina are unregulated, therefore there are no legal requirements needed in order to sell a handgun to another individual. Options A, C, and D are incorrect because they are not required for private sales. A background check on the buyer may be needed for licensed dealers, and a bill of sale and conceal carry permit may be required for other types of firearm transactions, but they are not necessary for private sales in South Carolina.