

Texas DPS Learner's Permit 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 does a flashing red light on the front of a car indicate when it should not be present?**
 - A. Emergency situation**
 - B. Regulated by traffic law**
 - C. Provision of warning**
 - D. Normal operation**

- 2. What should you do at a yield sign?**
 - A. Stop and wait for a green light**
 - B. Slow down and prepare to stop if necessary**
 - C. Continue at your current speed**
 - D. Drive in reverse**

- 3. What do blue road signs typically indicate?**
 - A. Speed limits**
 - B. Motorist services**
 - C. Warning of hazards**
 - D. Directions**

- 4. Approximately how many feet does a car traveling at 20 mph need to stop after applying the brakes?**
 - A. 30 feet**
 - B. 63 feet**
 - C. 50 feet**
 - D. 75 feet**

- 5. Which equipment on passenger vehicles helps improve visibility during rain?**
 - A. Rearview mirrors**
 - B. Windshield wipers**
 - C. Headlights**
 - D. Brake lights**

- 6. Which of the following is prohibited equipment on passenger cars in Texas?**
- A. Reflective mirrors**
 - B. Muffler cutout**
 - C. Turn signals**
 - D. Windshield wipers**
- 7. What is the rule regarding seat belts for drivers and passengers?**
- A. Only drivers need to wear seat belts**
 - B. All passengers must wear seat belts**
 - C. Seat belts are optional**
 - D. Only front-seat passengers need to wear them**
- 8. Which of the following must you yield to when driving?**
- A. Oncoming traffic**
 - B. Emergency vehicles**
 - C. Both A and B**
 - D. None of the above**
- 9. What does a flashing yellow light indicate?**
- A. Stop immediately**
 - B. Proceed with caution**
 - C. Speed up**
 - D. Prepare to turn**
- 10. What does a red traffic light indicate?**
- A. Proceed cautiously**
 - B. Stop**
 - C. Yield to pedestrians**
 - D. Turn left only**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What does a flashing red light on the front of a car indicate when it should not be present?

- A. Emergency situation**
- B. Regulated by traffic law**
- C. Provision of warning**
- D. Normal operation**

A flashing red light on a vehicle typically indicates an emergency situation or a need to stop or yield. If such a light is present and should not be (meaning that it is not part of the vehicle's normal operational state), this suggests a violation of traffic regulations, which are clearly defined for the use of emergency lights. In Texas and many other states, only authorized vehicles, such as police cars or ambulances, are permitted to display flashing red lights while in operation. Therefore, if a regular vehicle is observed with a flashing red light, it is likely violating traffic laws. Recognizing that flashing red lights, when not authorized, denote improper use directs attention to the need for compliance with established traffic regulations designed to ensure safety on the roads.

2. What should you do at a yield sign?

- A. Stop and wait for a green light**
- B. Slow down and prepare to stop if necessary**
- C. Continue at your current speed**
- D. Drive in reverse**

When approaching a yield sign, the correct action is to slow down and prepare to stop if necessary. A yield sign indicates that you must give the right of way to any traffic that is already present in the intersection or on the road you are about to enter. Slowing down allows you to assess the situation and decide whether it is safe to proceed or if you need to stop to let other vehicles or pedestrians pass. If you simply continue at your current speed, you could end up in a dangerous situation where you may not yield appropriately, potentially leading to a collision. Stopping and waiting for a green light at a yield sign is also not appropriate, as yield signs do not direct a vehicle to stop unless necessary. Driving in reverse is not related to the action required at a yield and would not be safe in this context. Thus, slowing down and being prepared to stop aligns with the rules of the road associated with a yield sign, ensuring safer navigation through intersections.

3. What do blue road signs typically indicate?

- A. Speed limits**
- B. Motorist services**
- C. Warning of hazards**
- D. Directions**

Blue road signs are specifically designed to indicate motorist services. This includes essential amenities such as food, gasoline, lodging, and various other services that can assist drivers during their travel. The standardized use of blue for this type of signage helps ensure that drivers can easily recognize these crucial services when they need them, particularly on long journeys where access to these amenities can be vital. Understanding the role of color in road signage is important for safe and efficient navigation. In this case, blue stands out as a color dedicated to guiding motorists rather than indicating speed limits, hazards, or directions, which are represented by different colors. This clarity in color coding aids drivers in quickly identifying the resources available to them as they travel.

4. Approximately how many feet does a car traveling at 20 mph need to stop after applying the brakes?

- A. 30 feet
- B. 63 feet**
- C. 50 feet
- D. 75 feet

When a car is traveling at 20 mph, it typically requires around 63 feet to come to a complete stop after the brakes are applied. This distance includes both the reaction time of the driver and the braking distance. At 20 mph, the average thinking distance is about 20 feet, which is the distance covered from the moment a driver recognizes the need to stop until the brakes are engaged. Following that, the braking distance—how far the car travels while coming to a stop—adds additional feet based on speed and the efficiency of the vehicle's braking system. In this case, when you combine the reaction distance and the braking distance at this speed, the approximate total distance is around 63 feet. Understanding these dynamics is crucial for safe driving, as it helps drivers gauge stopping distances and maintain appropriate following distances on the road. The distances given in the other choices do not accurately reflect the stopping distance for a vehicle traveling at 20 mph, which is essential knowledge for safe driving practices.

5. Which equipment on passenger vehicles helps improve visibility during rain?

- A. Rearview mirrors
- B. Windshield wipers**
- C. Headlights
- D. Brake lights

Windshield wipers are essential for maintaining visibility during rain. They are specifically designed to clear water, mud, and debris from the windshield, allowing the driver to see clearly through the glass. When it rains, the accumulation of water can obscure vision, making it difficult to judge distance and see other vehicles, pedestrians, and road signs. By effectively wiping away the rain, windshield wipers ensure that the driver has an unobstructed view of the road, thereby enhancing safety. While other options contribute to driving safety in different ways, they do not directly address the issue of visibility during rain. Rearview mirrors help you see behind the vehicle, headlights improve visibility in low light conditions, and brake lights signal to other drivers when you are slowing down or stopping, but none of these are primarily designed for clearing rain from the windshield. Thus, windshield wipers are the crucial equipment for improving visibility specifically during rainy conditions.

6. Which of the following is prohibited equipment on passenger cars in Texas?

- A. Reflective mirrors**
- B. Muffler cutout**
- C. Turn signals**
- D. Windshield wipers**

In Texas, the use of a muffler cutout on passenger cars is prohibited because it can significantly increase noise pollution and may result in emissions that do not meet state standards. Muffler cutouts allow exhaust gases to bypass the muffler, which can lead to excessive noise and potential violations of local ordinances concerning vehicle noise levels. This regulation exists to promote a safer and more pleasant environment for all road users, as well as to maintain vehicle standards that contribute to public health and safety. In contrast, reflective mirrors, turn signals, and windshield wipers are essential safety features that are required on all passenger vehicles. Reflective mirrors are crucial for visibility and help drivers maintain awareness of their surroundings. Turn signals are necessary for communicating intentions to other drivers, ensuring safe lane changes and turns. Windshield wipers are vital for maintaining clear visibility during adverse weather conditions, which is essential for safe driving.

7. What is the rule regarding seat belts for drivers and passengers?

- A. Only drivers need to wear seat belts**
- B. All passengers must wear seat belts**
- C. Seat belts are optional**
- D. Only front-seat passengers need to wear them**

The correct answer states that all passengers must wear seat belts, reflecting Texas law and regulations designed to enhance safety for everyone in the vehicle. Seat belts are proven to significantly reduce the risk of injury and fatalities in the event of a crash, meaning that the responsibility to wear them extends beyond just the driver. This requirement helps ensure that all occupants, regardless of their seating position, are protected while traveling. In Texas, the law mandates that all passengers in a vehicle, not just those in the front seat or those who are of certain age, must be buckled up. This was enacted to promote a culture of safety and encourage responsible driving habits. By making it a requirement for all passengers to wear seat belts, the law aims to minimize the potential consequences of an accident. Those who believe that only the driver is responsible or that seat belts are optional do not take into account the collective safety of all people in the vehicle. Not wearing a seat belt not only puts the individual at risk but can also affect the safety of others in the car. Thus, the comprehensive requirement for all passengers reflects a commitment to public safety on the roads.

8. Which of the following must you yield to when driving?

- A. Oncoming traffic
- B. Emergency vehicles
- C. Both A and B**
- D. None of the above

Yielding is a crucial aspect of driving that helps maintain safety on the roads. When you encounter oncoming traffic, it is essential to yield to those vehicles, especially when you are making a turn or crossing an intersection. This action prevents accidents and ensures that all motorists can navigate the road safely. Emergency vehicles, such as ambulances, police cars, and fire trucks, also require special attention. When an emergency vehicle is responding to a call and has its lights and sirens activated, it is critical to yield right of way, allowing it to pass through traffic without obstruction. Failure to do so could hinder emergency response efforts and pose danger to both the emergency responders and other road users. Thus, yielding to both oncoming traffic and emergency vehicles is necessary for responsible and safe driving practices, making this choice the correct answer.

9. What does a flashing yellow light indicate?

- A. Stop immediately
- B. Proceed with caution**
- C. Speed up
- D. Prepare to turn

A flashing yellow light indicates that drivers should proceed with caution. This signal alerts motorists that they need to be aware of their surroundings and proceed through an intersection or area carefully, as there may be potential hazards or other vehicles that could be crossing their path. It is a warning that requires a driver to reduce speed and be prepared to stop if necessary, rather than forcing them to come to a complete stop immediately as would be required for a solid red light or a stop sign. In contrast, options that suggest stopping immediately or speeding up would be inappropriate responses to a flashing yellow light. It's also important to note that "prepare to turn" might involve different signals or situations, such as yielding to oncoming traffic or waiting for a green light. The flashing yellow light simply emphasizes caution and awareness rather than definitive actions such as stopping or turning.

10. What does a red traffic light indicate?

- A. Proceed cautiously
- B. Stop**
- C. Yield to pedestrians
- D. Turn left only

A red traffic light indicates that drivers must come to a complete stop at the intersection before proceeding. This signal is a critical component of traffic control, ensuring that vehicles yield to oncoming traffic and pedestrians crossing the street. Following this instruction is essential for maintaining safety on the roads. When a driver sees a red light, they must remain stopped until the light turns green, unless otherwise indicated by signs or signals. This rule helps to prevent accidents and ensures a smooth flow of traffic. The other options involve different actions that are not appropriate under a red light. While caution is always advised near intersections, yielding to pedestrians and making specific turns only apply under certain conditions and with other signals. Therefore, understanding the significance of a red light is crucial for any driver.

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://txdpslearnerspermit.examzify.com>

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

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