

Texas DPS Permit - Form DL-84 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. When approaching a railroad crossing without signals, what should you do?**
 - A. Speed through if there are no trains**
 - B. Slow down, look in both directions, and proceed with caution**
 - C. Stop and wait for a signal to cross**
 - D. Only check one direction before proceeding**

- 2. What vehicle equipment can extend beyond the body of the car?**
 - A. Nothing should extend more than three inches beyond the left side or six inches beyond the right**
 - B. Only the side mirrors**
 - C. Nothing should extend beyond the rear of the vehicle**
 - D. Only lights can extend a few inches**

- 3. How should you approach a roundabout?**
 - A. Accelerate through it**
 - B. Yield to traffic already in the roundabout**
 - C. Enter without checking**
 - D. Stop before entering**

- 4. What is the minimum age to apply for a Texas learner's permit?**
 - A. 12 years old**
 - B. 14 years old**
 - C. 15 years old**
 - D. 16 years old**

- 5. What is the primary purpose of traffic signals?**
 - A. To decorate intersections**
 - B. To regulate traffic flow and ensure safety**
 - C. To provide information to drivers**
 - D. To indicate road construction**

- 6. What new equipment is required on all cars manufactured in 1968 and after?**
- A. Anti-lock braking system**
 - B. Air conditioning system**
 - C. An exhaust emission system**
 - D. Navigation system**
- 7. When must your headlights be on?**
- A. When visibility is less than 1,000 feet**
 - B. Only at night**
 - C. During the day in heavy traffic**
 - D. Whenever you feel it is necessary**
- 8. What type of identification is required to apply for the learner's permit in Texas?**
- A. A social security card**
 - B. A valid form of ID or proof of identity and residency**
 - C. A birth certificate**
 - D. School identification**
- 9. Why are seat belts important?**
- A. They keep you from getting lost**
 - B. They protect you from getting injured or ejected**
 - C. They improve your fuel efficiency**
 - D. They are only necessary for long drives**
- 10. What must all drivers under 18 have in the vehicle while operating?**
- A. A parent in the back seat**
 - B. A driver who is at least 21 years old in the front seat**
 - C. A sibling who is at least 18 years old**
 - D. A certified driving instructor**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. When approaching a railroad crossing without signals, what should you do?

A. Speed through if there are no trains

B. Slow down, look in both directions, and proceed with caution

C. Stop and wait for a signal to cross

D. Only check one direction before proceeding

When approaching a railroad crossing without signals, it is essential to prioritize safety due to the potential for oncoming trains. Slowing down allows you to better assess the situation and look in both directions ensures that you are aware of any trains that may be approaching from either side. Trains can come unexpectedly and travel at high speeds, making it crucial to have full visibility of the tracks before proceeding. By exercising caution and being vigilant, you minimize the risk of an accident. The practice of looking both ways is especially important because many crossings do not have warning signals, and a train can arrive with little to no warning. The focus is on making informed and safe decisions while acknowledging that trains can be quieter and more challenging to spot than one might anticipate.

2. What vehicle equipment can extend beyond the body of the car?

A. Nothing should extend more than three inches beyond the left side or six inches beyond the right

B. Only the side mirrors

C. Nothing should extend beyond the rear of the vehicle

D. Only lights can extend a few inches

The correct choice states that nothing should extend more than three inches beyond the left side or six inches beyond the right side of the vehicle. This regulation is important as it ensures the safety of the vehicle and others on the road. When a vehicle has parts that extend beyond its body, such as side mirrors, those extensions can create hazards for other drivers, particularly in narrow lanes or when passing. The established limits (three inches on the left and six inches on the right) help maintain a reasonable profile of the vehicle to reduce the risk of accidents caused by protruding equipment. This answer emphasizes the importance of vehicle design and safety regulations, which are aimed at preventing collisions and ensuring that vehicles can navigate various road conditions without creating dangerous situations. Other choices suggest different interpretations of vehicle extensions, but adhering to the specified limits helps maintain safety standards on roadways.

3. How should you approach a roundabout?

- A. Accelerate through it
- B. Yield to traffic already in the roundabout**
- C. Enter without checking
- D. Stop before entering

When approaching a roundabout, the correct practice is to yield to traffic that is already in the roundabout. This means that drivers should slow down and look for oncoming vehicles that are circulating within the roundabout before entering. Yielding to the vehicles already in the roundabout helps to ensure a smooth flow of traffic and reduces the risk of collisions, as these vehicles have the right of way. Understanding the dynamics of a roundabout is crucial for maintaining safety. In contrast to traditional intersections, roundabouts are designed to keep traffic moving while minimizing the potential for serious accidents. Drivers who yield to ongoing traffic allow for efficient movement and reduce congestion, as they can seamlessly merge into the flow when it is safe to do so. Other approaches, like accelerating through the roundabout or entering without checking, could lead to dangerous situations and possibly accidents, as they do not take into account the vehicles that are already circulating. Stopping before entering may unnecessarily impede traffic flow, as the objective is to keep moving while ensuring it is safe to enter the roundabout. Therefore, yielding to traffic already in the roundabout is the most effective and safest approach.

4. What is the minimum age to apply for a Texas learner's permit?

- A. 12 years old
- B. 14 years old
- C. 15 years old**
- D. 16 years old

The minimum age to apply for a Texas learner's permit is 15 years old. This age requirement is established to ensure that applicants have reached a level of maturity and cognitive ability necessary to begin the driving education process. At 15 years, a teen can apply for a learner's permit, which allows them to practice driving under the supervision of a licensed adult. This learner's permit is an important step in the process of obtaining a full driver's license in Texas. It is essential for new drivers to gain practical experience behind the wheel while adhering to the state's regulations. Those who are younger than 15 do not have the opportunity to start this process, which is why 12 and 14 years old are not acceptable ages for applying. Moreover, once an individual turns 16, they are eligible for a provisional license after holding the learner's permit for a required amount of time and completing the necessary education and driving hours.

5. What is the primary purpose of traffic signals?

- A. To decorate intersections
- B. To regulate traffic flow and ensure safety**
- C. To provide information to drivers
- D. To indicate road construction

The primary purpose of traffic signals is to regulate traffic flow and ensure safety. Traffic signals play a critical role in managing the movement of vehicles and pedestrians at intersections. By controlling when vehicles can go or stop, signals help to prevent accidents and reduce congestion. Effective traffic signal operation allows for an orderly flow of traffic, which is essential in busy urban areas where multiple roads intersect. The signals communicate essential information to drivers about when to proceed, stop, or yield, therefore minimizing the potential for collisions. In essence, they create a predictable environment for all road users, contributing to safer roadways. While some might think of traffic signals as mere decorations or tools for providing roadside information, their essential function is fundamentally about enhancing safety and efficiency in traffic systems.

6. What new equipment is required on all cars manufactured in 1968 and after?

- A. Anti-lock braking system
- B. Air conditioning system
- C. An exhaust emission system**
- D. Navigation system

The correct answer is that all cars manufactured in 1968 and after are required to have an exhaust emission system. This requirement stems from the growing concern over air quality and environmental protection during the late 1960s, which led to the implementation of regulations aimed at reducing vehicle emissions. The establishment of the first federal emissions standards under the Clean Air Act made it essential for vehicles to be equipped with systems designed to minimize harmful emissions released into the atmosphere. The exhaust emission system is crucial as it captures and treats exhaust gases before they exit the vehicle, thereby reducing pollutants. This technology has evolved significantly since its inception, leading to the modern systems we see today that help cars meet stringent environmental standards. While modern vehicles often include anti-lock braking systems, air conditioning systems, and navigation systems as standard, those features were not universally required for cars made starting in 1968. Therefore, the focus on exhaust emission systems marks a critical step in automotive manufacturing to ensure public health and environmental protection.

7. When must your headlights be on?

- A. When visibility is less than 1,000 feet**
- B. Only at night**
- C. During the day in heavy traffic**
- D. Whenever you feel it is necessary**

Headlights must be turned on when visibility is less than 1,000 feet to ensure safety on the road. This regulation helps drivers to see clearly and be seen by others, particularly in adverse weather conditions such as rain, fog, or snow, where visibility can drop significantly. Using headlights in these situations increases the likelihood that other drivers and pedestrians can see your vehicle, contributing to safer driving conditions. While it is true that headlights are also necessary at night to illuminate the road and improve visibility, this answer specifically addresses the broader requirement for conditions that affect visibility. Other options suggest circumstances that may not fully encompass the legal requirements for headlight usage, such as relying purely on personal judgment or only using them during specific times of day without regard for visibility conditions.

8. What type of identification is required to apply for the learner's permit in Texas?

- A. A social security card**
- B. A valid form of ID or proof of identity and residency**
- C. A birth certificate**
- D. School identification**

To apply for a learner's permit in Texas, a valid form of identification or proof of identity and residency is required. This requirement ensures that the applicant's identity is verified and that they are a resident of Texas. Acceptable forms of identification include a state-issued ID, a passport, or any other document that can establish both identity and residency. Having a valid form of identification is crucial because it helps the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) maintain accurate records and ensure that only eligible individuals are receiving permits. The focus on both identity and residency prevents issues such as identity theft and fraud, which are critical considerations in the issuance of any official documentation. While other documents like a social security card, birth certificate, and school identification can support an application or serve as additional verification, they do not meet the specific criteria of being a valid form of ID that proves both identity and residency within Texas. Therefore, the emphasis on a valid form of identification or proof of identity and residency is essential for the integrity of the permitting process.

9. Why are seat belts important?

- A. They keep you from getting lost
- B. They protect you from getting injured or ejected**
- C. They improve your fuel efficiency
- D. They are only necessary for long drives

Seat belts are essential for protecting occupants in a vehicle from getting injured or ejected during a crash. In the event of an accident, the sudden deceleration can cause individuals to be thrown from their seats or even out of the vehicle entirely if not properly restrained. Seat belts are designed to secure passengers in place, significantly reducing the risk of serious injuries such as traumatic brain injuries, spinal injuries, and fatalities. Moreover, wearing a seat belt is a critical safety measure that increases the likelihood of surviving an accident. The vast majority of vehicle occupants involved in crashes are safer when they are buckled up, as seat belts distribute the forces of a collision across stronger parts of the body. They are an effective and proven safety feature. Understanding the importance of seat belts is fundamental to promoting safe driving habits, as they are designed specifically to prevent injuries and save lives on the road.

10. What must all drivers under 18 have in the vehicle while operating?

- A. A parent in the back seat
- B. A driver who is at least 21 years old in the front seat**
- C. A sibling who is at least 18 years old
- D. A certified driving instructor

All drivers under 18 are required to have a driver who is at least 21 years old in the front seat while operating a vehicle. This regulation is in place to ensure that inexperienced young drivers have access to a more experienced adult who can provide guidance and assistance during the driving process. The presence of a qualified adult helps enhance safety for both the young driver and others on the road, as the adult can offer support in managing various driving situations. The requirement is particularly important because drivers under 18 are still in the early stages of developing their driving skills and habits. An adult in the front seat can help monitor driving behavior, advise on best practices, and intervene if necessary. This precaution aims to reduce accidents and promote a safer driving environment for inexperienced drivers. While options suggest other potential passengers, such as a parent in the back seat or a certified driving instructor, none fulfill the specific requirement of having someone at least 21 years old seated in the front to actively supervise the young driver. Therefore, having a driver who meets this age requirement in the front seat is crucial for compliance with Texas driving laws.

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://txdpsformdl84.examzify.com>

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

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