

# Texas Manicure License 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

- 1. Which of the following nail shapes is best suited for customers who work with their hands?**
  - A. Square**
  - B. Round**
  - C. Almond**
  - D. Stiletto**
- 2. What are cuts in the cuticle around the nail called?**
  - A. Hang nails**
  - B. Split nails**
  - C. Ingrown nails**
  - D. Cuticle tears**
- 3. What should be used to disinfect tools before performing manicure services?**
  - A. Warm water**
  - B. Alcohol-based sanitizer**
  - C. Soap and water**
  - D. All-purpose cleaner**
- 4. What is the term for the fluid part of the blood?**
  - A. Platelets**
  - B. Clotting factor**
  - C. Plasma**
  - D. Cellular matrix**
- 5. To repair a cracked nail with a fabric wrap, one should cut a repair patch that covers:**
  - A. Half of the crack**
  - B. The entire crack in the nail**
  - C. Just the visible part of the crack**
  - D. Only the tip of the crack**

- 6. Which of the following is NOT true regarding a dappen dish?**
- A. It should be covered with a tight lid in a dust-free location when not in use**
  - B. The polymer powder and monomer liquid are both poured into a dappen dish**
  - C. It needs to have a narrow opening to minimize evaporation of monomer**
  - D. It must have a wide opening so the brush can be easily and quickly immersed**
- 7. Which of the following is a common cause of onychomycosis?**
- A. Fungus**
  - B. Bacteria**
  - C. Virus**
  - D. Parasitic infection**
- 8. Which of the following is NOT an early warning sign of overexposure to salon chemicals?**
- A. Skin irritation**
  - B. Headaches**
  - C. Backaches**
  - D. Nausea**
- 9. What is the term for a blood clot that forms under the nail plate, presenting as a dark purplish spot?**
- A. A bruised nail**
  - B. A chipped nail**
  - C. An ingrown nail**
  - D. A fungal infection**
- 10. For nail tip application, a manicurist will need an abrasive board, nail tips, and what else?**
- A. Fiberglass and linen**
  - B. Nail tip adhesive and a buffer block**
  - C. All of the choices listed**
  - D. No-light gel**



## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. Which of the following nail shapes is best suited for customers who work with their hands?**

**A. Square**

**B. Round**

**C. Almond**

**D. Stiletto**

The square nail shape is best suited for customers who work with their hands due to its strength and durability. This shape features straight edges and a flat tip, which helps to prevent breakage, making it ideal for those who engage in activities that require manual dexterity or involve physical labor. Square nails provide a solid surface that can withstand impact better than other shapes, allowing for less maintenance and fewer frequent repairs or breaks. In contrast, while round nails can also be somewhat durable, they do not have the same level of edge strength as square nails. Almond and stiletto shapes, while aesthetically pleasing and trendy, are more prone to breakage due to their slender and pointed designs, which can be less suitable for someone whose hands are frequently in use for work, as these shapes don't provide the same level of protection and can easily be damaged.

**2. What are cuts in the cuticle around the nail called?**

**A. Hang nails**

**B. Split nails**

**C. Ingrown nails**

**D. Cuticle tears**

The term for cuts in the cuticle around the nail is referred to as "hang nails." Hang nails occur when the skin at the edge of the nail becomes dry and splits, creating a small piece of skin that hangs off. This condition can be painful and may lead to infection if not treated properly. Maintaining cuticle health through proper moisturizing and care can help prevent hang nails from occurring. The other options describe different conditions. Split nails refer to nails that are cracked or broken down the middle, whereas ingrown nails occur when the edge of a nail grows into the surrounding skin, often causing pain and inflammation. Cuticle tears are similar but specifically refer to a tear in the cuticle itself rather than a hang nail situation where the skin at the side of the nail is involved. This highlights the specific nature of hang nails as distinct from other nail-related issues.

**3. What should be used to disinfect tools before performing manicure services?**

- A. Warm water
- B. Alcohol-based sanitizer**
- C. Soap and water
- D. All-purpose cleaner

Using an alcohol-based sanitizer to disinfect tools before performing manicure services is essential for ensuring safety and hygiene during the service. Alcohol is effective in killing a wide range of pathogens, including bacteria, viruses, and fungi, making it a reliable option for sanitizing implements that come into direct contact with clients. When used correctly, alcohol-based sanitizers can significantly reduce the risk of infections and cross-contamination in a manicure setting, protecting both the client and the nail technician. Warm water, while useful for cleaning, does not possess the disinfectant properties necessary to thoroughly sanitize tools. Soap and water can remove dirt and debris but may not effectively eliminate all pathogens. An all-purpose cleaner is typically intended for surfaces and may not be suitable for disinfecting tools that require a high level of sanitation. Therefore, the alcohol-based sanitizer stands out as the most appropriate choice for disinfecting tools prior to manicure services.

**4. What is the term for the fluid part of the blood?**

- A. Platelets
- B. Clotting factor
- C. Plasma**
- D. Cellular matrix

The term for the fluid part of the blood is plasma. Plasma is a yellowish liquid that makes up about 55% of total blood volume and is composed mainly of water, along with proteins, electrolytes, nutrients, hormones, and waste products. Its primary function is to transport blood cells, nutrients, and other substances throughout the body. In contrast, platelets are small cell fragments involved in blood clotting but do not constitute the fluid portion of blood. Clotting factors are proteins that help the blood to clot and also do not relate to the liquid aspect of blood. The term "cellular matrix" generally refers to the component of tissues that provide structural and biochemical support, not specifically to blood. Understanding plasma's role is essential in fields such as health, nutrition, and medicine, highlighting its importance in maintaining bodily functions and overall homeostasis.

5. To repair a cracked nail with a fabric wrap, one should cut a repair patch that covers:
- A. Half of the crack
  - B. The entire crack in the nail**
  - C. Just the visible part of the crack
  - D. Only the tip of the crack

When repairing a cracked nail with a fabric wrap, the goal is to ensure that the entire crack is properly supported and secured to prevent it from worsening or splitting further. By cutting a repair patch that covers the entire crack in the nail, you provide adequate reinforcement to help restore the nail's strength and durability. This approach not only aids in the immediate stabilization of the damage but also promotes healing by keeping the area protected. Using a patch that extends beyond just the visible part of the crack ensures that any hidden damage beneath the surface is also addressed. If the repair is limited to only a portion of the crack, it may eventually lead to further issues, as the unsupported sections can continue to break or separate. Therefore, covering the entire crack is essential for a successful repair, ensuring that the integrity of the nail is maintained throughout the healing process.

6. Which of the following is NOT true regarding a dappen dish?
- A. It should be covered with a tight lid in a dust-free location when not in use
  - B. The polymer powder and monomer liquid are both poured into a dappen dish
  - C. It needs to have a narrow opening to minimize evaporation of monomer
  - D. It must have a wide opening so the brush can be easily and quickly immersed**

A dappen dish is specifically designed for the mixing and storage of polymer powders and monomer liquids used in nail services. The unique features of a dappen dish help maintain the quality of these materials while minimizing waste and ensuring safety during the application process. Having a narrow opening is vital for effectively controlling evaporation, particularly of the monomer liquid, which can evaporate quickly if exposed to air. A narrow opening helps to limit the surface area exposed to air, reducing the rate at which the monomer evaporates and ensuring that it remains usable for a longer duration. This design consideration is crucial because evaporation can lead to changes in the consistency and chemical properties of the product, potentially affecting the performance during application. In addition, the correct usage includes covering the dappen dish with a lid when it is not in use, ensuring that dust and contaminants do not enter the dish. This practice helps maintain a clean work environment and prolongs the life of the products inside. Requiring the dappen dish to have a wide opening contradicts proper storage and handling of the materials. A wide opening would increase the surface area exposed to air, promoting evaporation rather than minimizing it, which is contrary to the standards and best practices within the manicure industry.

**7. Which of the following is a common cause of onychomycosis?**

- A. Fungus**
- B. Bacteria**
- C. Virus**
- D. Parasitic infection**

Onychomycosis is primarily caused by a fungal infection of the nails. Various types of fungi, such as dermatophytes, yeasts, and non-dermatophyte molds, can lead to this condition, resulting in changes to the appearance and health of the nails. The infection typically occurs when the fungi invade the nail bed and begin to grow, often leading to thickening, discoloration, and brittleness of the nails. Understanding that onychomycosis is specifically associated with fungal organisms is crucial for identifying appropriate treatment measures. While other pathogens, such as bacteria and viruses, can lead to nail issues, they are not the primary agents responsible for onychomycosis. Additionally, parasitic infections are not a common concern when discussing nail fungus, further solidifying the significance of fungi in this context. The distinction of fungi as the main culprit helps in diagnosing and treating the condition effectively.

**8. Which of the following is NOT an early warning sign of overexposure to salon chemicals?**

- A. Skin irritation**
- B. Headaches**
- C. Backaches**
- D. Nausea**

Backaches are not typically recognized as an early warning sign of overexposure to salon chemicals. Early warning signs usually manifest in more immediate physiological reactions that are directly linked to the exposure to harmful substances, such as skin irritation, headaches, and nausea. Skin irritation can occur as a result of direct contact with irritants, leading to redness, itching, or rashes. Headaches may arise from inhaling fumes or allergens present in salon chemicals, indicating that the body is reacting to the exposure. Nausea is another common symptom that can result from inhalation or contact with toxic substances, signaling the body's distress and need for action. In contrast, backaches are more commonly associated with physical strain or other non-chemical-related issues rather than a direct reaction to salon chemicals. This distinction helps identify what symptoms to monitor closely when working in a salon environment.

**9. What is the term for a blood clot that forms under the nail plate, presenting as a dark purplish spot?**

- A. A bruised nail**
- B. A chipped nail**
- C. An ingrown nail**
- D. A fungal infection**

The term for a blood clot that forms under the nail plate and presents as a dark purplish spot is known as a bruised nail. When trauma occurs to the nail bed, such as hitting or crushing the nail, it can cause bleeding beneath the nail, leading to the characteristic discoloration. This condition is commonly seen in situations where there is localized pressure or injury. The appearance of a bruised nail can be alarming, but it often heals over time as the nail grows out. Understanding this is important for nail care practitioners as they assess nail health and advise clients on proper treatment and care. Knowledge of the symptoms and causes can help in distinguishing it from other nail conditions, which is essential for providing effective client care.

**10. For nail tip application, a manicurist will need an abrasive board, nail tips, and what else?**

- A. Fiberglass and linen**
- B. Nail tip adhesive and a buffer block**
- C. All of the choices listed**
- D. No-light gel**

When applying nail tips, the essential tools include the nail tips themselves, an adhesive specifically for nail tips, and a buffer block to smooth the surface and ensure a proper fit. The nail tip adhesive is crucial because it secures the tip to the natural nail, forming a bond that allows for a safe and long-lasting application. A buffer block helps prepare the nail surface, improving adhesion and providing a smooth finish after the tips are applied. While options such as fiberglass, linen, no-light gel, or other materials might be used in various nail enhancement features or for different techniques, they are not necessary for the basic application of nail tips. The focus here is on the most fundamental tools required for this specific process, identifying nail tip adhesive and a buffer block as critical components.



## 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](mailto:hello@examzify.com).**

**Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:**

**<https://txmanicure.examzify.com>**

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