

# Texas Security Guard License Practice Exam (Sample)

## Study Guide



**Everything you need from our exam experts!**

**This is a sample study guide. To access the full version with hundreds of questions,**

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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. Don't worry about getting everything right, 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, and take breaks to retain information better.**

## 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.**

## 7. Use Other Tools

**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!**

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## **Questions**

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- 1. Can security guards in Texas make arrests?**
  - A. Yes, they have full arrest powers**
  - B. No, they do not have arrest powers**
  - C. Only under certain circumstances**
  - D. Yes, but only for misdemeanors**
- 2. Which factor is NOT a part of a security guard's responsibilities?**
  - A. Monitoring premises for suspicious activity**
  - B. Providing first aid when necessary**
  - C. Maintaining a private security firm's accounting records**
  - D. Enforcing facility rules and regulations**
- 3. What types of non-lethal restraints can a security guard use?**
  - A. Ropes and chains**
  - B. Handcuffs or zip ties, only if trained and permitted by the employer**
  - C. Fists and aggressive tactics**
  - D. None; restraints are not allowed**
- 4. What tool can help security guards deal with difficult people?**
  - A. Effective communication skills**
  - B. Physical force when necessary**
  - C. Use of security equipment**
  - D. Authority from supervisors**
- 5. In Texas, how often do security guard licenses need to be renewed?**
  - A. Every year**
  - B. Every two years**
  - C. Every five years**
  - D. Every three years**

**6. Which principle is primarily concerned with how security personnel react when an incident occurs?**

- A. Detection**
- B. Response**
- C. Deterrence**
- D. Assessment**

**7. How important is effective communication for a security guard?**

- A. It is somewhat important for building rapport**
- B. It is crucial for coordinating responses and resolving conflicts**
- C. It is mainly necessary for written reports**
- D. It is not as important as physical fitness**

**8. What does the term "commissioned" mean with regard to security guards in Texas?**

- A. The guard is licensed to carry a firearm while on duty**
- B. The guard is authorized to make arrests**
- C. The guard has completed all necessary training**
- D. The guard can supervise other security personnel**

**9. What is the importance of being aware of one's surroundings as a security guard?**

- A. To pass time during shifts**
- B. To quickly identify potential threats and respond appropriately**
- C. To intimidate potential intruders**
- D. To discuss with coworkers**

**10. What does 'active listening' entail for security personnel?**

- A. Nodding occasionally during conversations**
- B. Responding immediately without thought**
- C. Fully concentrating and consciously responding during dialogues**
- D. Repeating what the other person says**

## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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## 1. Can security guards in Texas make arrests?

- A. Yes, they have full arrest powers
- B. No, they do not have arrest powers**
- C. Only under certain circumstances
- D. Yes, but only for misdemeanors

In Texas, security guards do not have arrest powers in the same way that law enforcement officers do. Their primary role is to observe and report, ensuring safety and security at the locations they are assigned to protect. While they can detain individuals in situations where they are witnessing a crime in progress, their authority is limited, and they must follow specific protocols. This means that they do not have the full arrest powers that a police officer possesses. Instead, their actions should focus on alerting law enforcement and managing situations until help arrives. Understanding the scope of a security guard's authority helps to clarify their responsibilities and emphasizes the need for them to act within legal boundaries.

## 2. Which factor is NOT a part of a security guard's responsibilities?

- A. Monitoring premises for suspicious activity
- B. Providing first aid when necessary
- C. Maintaining a private security firm's accounting records**
- D. Enforcing facility rules and regulations

The role of a security guard primarily focuses on ensuring safety and security within a designated area. This includes monitoring the premises for any suspicious activity, which involves being vigilant and attentive to potential security threats. Additionally, security guards are often trained to enforce facility rules and regulations, which helps maintain order and security in various environments. They may also be required to provide first aid when necessary, as they are sometimes the first responders in emergencies and need to assist in medical situations until professional help arrives. Maintaining a private security firm's accounting records, however, falls outside the scope of a security guard's responsibilities. This task is typically handled by administrative personnel or accounting staff who are trained in financial management. Security guards are not expected to manage financial matters, as their expertise lies in ensuring safety, monitoring activities, and responding to incidents. Thus, this aspect is not considered part of their core duties.

### 3. What types of non-lethal restraints can a security guard use?

A. Ropes and chains

**B. Handcuffs or zip ties, only if trained and permitted by the employer**

C. Fists and aggressive tactics

D. None; restraints are not allowed

Using non-lethal restraints such as handcuffs or zip ties is appropriate for a security guard, but it is essential that the guard is properly trained and has permission from their employer to do so. This aligns with established protocols for safety and legality. Proper training ensures that the guard understands how to apply these restraints without causing injury and respects the rights of individuals. Moreover, authorization from the employer is crucial to ensure that the actions taken are within the company's policies and legal framework. In contrast, the other options present methods that are either unsafe, inappropriate, or not permitted under standard practices for security personnel. While ropes and chains could potentially be used, they are not standard issue for security guards and could pose a risk of serious harm. Using fists and aggressive tactics goes against the principles of conflict de-escalation and the duty to protect individuals. As for the option stating that no restraints are allowed, while some environments may restrict the use of restraints entirely, many security guards are trained to use specific non-lethal methods when warranted. Thus, the selected answer emphasizes the importance of training and employer permission in the use of non-lethal restraints.

### 4. What tool can help security guards deal with difficult people?

**A. Effective communication skills**

B. Physical force when necessary

C. Use of security equipment

D. Authority from supervisors

Effective communication skills are crucial for security guards when dealing with difficult people. These skills enable guards to manage challenging situations by de-escalating conflicts, building rapport, and obtaining compliance from individuals who may be agitated or uncooperative. The use of clear, calm, and assertive communication can help to diffuse tension, allowing for a resolution without the need for physical confrontation. Strong communication also includes active listening, which helps guards understand the concerns or problems of individuals, showing empathy and respect that can lead to a more favorable outcome. By fostering an atmosphere of respect and understanding, security personnel can often persuade difficult individuals to cooperate, thereby maintaining safety and security without escalating the situation further. While physical force and security equipment have their place in certain situations, they should be seen as last resorts after all avenues for communication and conflict resolution have been exhausted. Authority from supervisors can provide support but ultimately, the individual guard's ability to communicate effectively will be the most important tool when dealing with the public.

**5. In Texas, how often do security guard licenses need to be renewed?**

- A. Every year**
- B. Every two years**
- C. Every five years**
- D. Every three years**

In Texas, security guard licenses need to be renewed every two years. This requirement ensures that security personnel maintain up-to-date knowledge and training relevant to their duties and responsibilities, which is crucial for effective performance in safeguarding people and property. Regular renewal helps to ensure that license holders are in compliance with any changes in laws, regulations, and best practices that may have emerged since their last certification. This biennial renewal cycle supports professional standards within the security industry and provides an opportunity for continuous education and skills enhancement.

**6. Which principle is primarily concerned with how security personnel react when an incident occurs?**

- A. Detection**
- B. Response**
- C. Deterrence**
- D. Assessment**

The principle that focuses on how security personnel react when an incident occurs is response. This concept encompasses the actions and procedures that security guards are trained to follow in various situations, such as emergencies, breaches, or criminal activity. The emphasis is on efficiency and effectiveness in managing incidents to ensure safety and security for both personnel and property. A well-prepared response protocol enables security guards to handle situations appropriately, minimizing risk and damage. This includes everything from assessing the situation, communicating with appropriate authorities, and taking necessary actions to control or resolve the incident. Understanding and practicing a proper response helps in maintaining a secure environment and protecting the interests of those involved. Other principles, while essential in the broader context of security, do not focus specifically on the actions taken during an incident. Detection involves identifying potential threats before they escalate, deterrence aims to prevent incidents from occurring in the first place, and assessment involves evaluating risks and vulnerabilities, which are crucial but occur prior to any incident response.

## 7. How important is effective communication for a security guard?

- A. It is somewhat important for building rapport**
- B. It is crucial for coordinating responses and resolving conflicts**
- C. It is mainly necessary for written reports**
- D. It is not as important as physical fitness**

Effective communication is crucial for a security guard as it directly impacts various aspects of their responsibilities. Guards often find themselves in situations where quick and clear communication can determine the success of their response to incidents, such as emergencies or conflicts. For instance, coordinating with law enforcement, emergency services, or even other security personnel requires clear exchanges of vital information. This ensures that everyone involved understands the situation, which can help in quickly putting the appropriate measures in place to protect people and property. Furthermore, effective communication assists in the de-escalation of conflicts. A security guard who can communicate calmly and assertively can often diffuse potentially volatile situations before they escalate into violence. This not only protects the safety of individuals involved but also helps maintain a secure environment. While building rapport and creating a positive environment is also important, it is the ability to coordinate responses and resolve conflicts through effective communication that stands out as essential in the security profession. This ensures that safety protocols are followed and that all parties are aligned in their response efforts.

## 8. What does the term "commissioned" mean with regard to security guards in Texas?

- A. The guard is licensed to carry a firearm while on duty**
- B. The guard is authorized to make arrests**
- C. The guard has completed all necessary training**
- D. The guard can supervise other security personnel**

The term "commissioned" in relation to security guards in Texas specifically refers to the guard being licensed to carry a firearm while on duty. This designation indicates that the security guard has completed the necessary training and certification requirements set forth by the state in order to lawfully carry a firearm in the course of their duties. Having a commission means that the security guard has the legal authority to use a firearm if required, following the protocols established for their position. This concept is critical for understanding the scope of a commissioned security guard's duties and the level of trust placed in them regarding the use of potentially deadly force. Being commissioned typically involves extensive training in firearms safety, legal use of force, and appropriate engagement protocols, ensuring that the guard can responsibly handle situations that may require the use of a weapon. Other options, while related to security services, do not accurately capture the specific meaning of "commissioned." The authorization to make arrests is associated with peace officers rather than security guards, and completing necessary training can apply to both commissioned and non-commissioned guards. Supervision of other personnel is a function that may depend on the specific role of the security guard, but again, it does not define the term "commissioned." Thus, the focus remains primarily

**9. What is the importance of being aware of one's surroundings as a security guard?**

- A. To pass time during shifts**
- B. To quickly identify potential threats and respond appropriately**
- C. To intimidate potential intruders**
- D. To discuss with coworkers**

Being aware of one's surroundings is crucial for a security guard as it enables them to quickly identify potential threats and respond appropriately. This heightened level of situational awareness allows security personnel to monitor their environment for unusual behaviors, unauthorized access, or other signs of trouble that may pose a risk to the safety of individuals and property. The ability to recognize these warning signs early is essential for preventing incidents before they escalate, ensuring a timely response, and maintaining a secure environment. Furthermore, by being vigilant and attentive, security guards can effectively deter criminal activity simply by their presence and readiness to act, reinforcing their role as a protector. Awareness of surroundings empowers a guard to assess and adapt to changing situations quickly, making it a key aspect of their duties and responsibilities in safeguarding the area they are assigned to.

**10. What does 'active listening' entail for security personnel?**

- A. Nodding occasionally during conversations**
- B. Responding immediately without thought**
- C. Fully concentrating and consciously responding during dialogues**
- D. Repeating what the other person says**

Active listening for security personnel involves fully concentrating on and consciously responding during conversations. This means not only hearing the words that are being said but also understanding the underlying emotions and intentions behind those words. When security personnel engage in active listening, they are able to grasp the full context of what is being communicated, which is crucial in making informed decisions during potentially high-stress situations. The practice of active listening allows security professionals to build rapport with individuals, assess situations more effectively, and respond appropriately to queries or emergencies. By providing feedback that reflects understanding, such as summarizing or paraphrasing the other person's comments, security personnel can clarify information and ensure that all parties are on the same page. While nodding occasionally can indicate attentiveness, it does not truly reflect the depth of engagement required in active listening. Responding immediately without thought can lead to misunderstandings or missing key details, and merely repeating what someone says does not demonstrate true comprehension or engagement. Therefore, the essence of active listening lies in the focused and thoughtful interaction that enhances communication and situational awareness.

# 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://texassecurity.examzify.com>**

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

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