

TFM 13 TEXAS FIRE ALARM TECHNICIAN 13 – TECHNICAL PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE) STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED 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. 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 is NOT a requirement for the secondary power source for household alarms?**
 - A. Capable of causing audible trouble signals
 - B. Must be capable of operation for 4 minutes during alarm
 - C. Must use rechargeable batteries
 - D. Must provide backup for at least 7 days
- 2. Who is responsible for informing a technician about occupants with hearing disabilities?**
 - A. The building owner
 - B. The hearing impaired party
 - C. The technician themselves
 - D. The facility manager
- 3. How often should fire alarm systems be inspected and tested?**
 - A. Quarterly
 - B. Biannually
 - C. Annually
 - D. Every two years
- 4. How should smoke detectors and notification appliances in household fire alarm systems be managed?**
 - A. Connected without supervision
 - B. Monitored for integrity
 - C. Tested monthly
 - D. Replaced every year
- 5. Which of the following is NOT an optional function of fire warning equipment?**
 - A. Notification of the fire department
 - B. Monitoring of other fire safety systems
 - C. Notification of burglary
 - D. Issuing fire safety training

- 6. Is the statement "Chapter 11 applies to the protection of property" true or false?**
- A. True
 - B. False
 - C. It depends on the situation
 - D. Only true for commercial properties
- 7. What device is used to alert occupants in case of fire?**
- A. A fire alarm notification appliance
 - B. A smoke detector
 - C. A fire suppression system
 - D. An emergency exit light
- 8. In which situation would a fire watch typically be required?**
- A. Dinner events in public spaces
 - B. Fire drills in schools
 - C. When fire protection systems are temporarily out of service
 - D. In aesthetic maintenance of fire systems
- 9. True or False: Detectors and appliances can be mounted using wires behind them.**
- A. True
 - B. False
 - C. Only if secured properly
 - D. Only in residential areas
- 10. In relation to smoke alarms and obstructions, what should be avoided to ensure proper function?**
- A. Placing them next to windows
 - B. Installing in high humidity areas
 - C. Intervening doors or barriers
 - D. Using battery power

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is NOT a requirement for the secondary power source for household alarms?

- A. Capable of causing audible trouble signals
- B. Must be capable of operation for 4 minutes during alarm
- C. Must use rechargeable batteries**
- D. Must provide backup for at least 7 days

The requirement for the secondary power source for household alarms is typically that it must be reliable and capable of functioning properly in case of a primary power failure. One of the essential aspects of this secondary power source is that it should be capable of causing audible trouble signals, ensuring that any issues with the alarm system are communicated effectively to the users. Additionally, the secondary power must be able to operate during an alarm condition for a set period, usually 4 minutes or longer, allowing the system to function briefly after the primary power is lost. However, there is no specific mandate that the secondary power source must use rechargeable batteries. While rechargeable batteries can be an effective option, the requirement does not exclude other types of backup batteries, such as non-rechargeable batteries, provided they meet the necessary operational and performance criteria. Thus, stating that the secondary power source must exclusively use rechargeable batteries does not align with the actual requirement, making this the correct choice.

2. Who is responsible for informing a technician about occupants with hearing disabilities?

- A. The building owner
- B. The hearing impaired party**
- C. The technician themselves
- D. The facility manager

The responsibility of informing a technician about occupants with hearing disabilities typically lies with the hearing-impaired individuals themselves. This is because they are most aware of their specific needs and can provide the necessary details to ensure that fire alarm systems are designed and installed properly to accommodate them. This might include requesting specific features such as visual alarms or other assistive technologies that might aid in alerting them during emergencies. While the building owner and facility manager have roles in ensuring that the environment is accessible and compliant with regulations, and technicians may ask questions to ascertain the needs of occupants, it is ultimately the individuals who possess the disabilities that can provide the most accurate information about their requirements. Therefore, when it comes to personal preferences and specific accommodations, the hearing-impaired party is in the best position to communicate these needs effectively.

3. How often should fire alarm systems be inspected and tested?

- A. Quarterly
- B. Biannually
- C. Annually**
- D. Every two years

Fire alarm systems should be inspected and tested annually to ensure optimal performance and reliability. This annual requirement aligns with national standards, specifically the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) codes, which emphasize the importance of regular inspections for safety and compliance with fire safety regulations. Annual inspections are vital for identifying potential issues, ensuring all components are functioning correctly, and confirming that the system operates as intended during emergencies. Regular testing and inspections help to maintain the integrity of the fire alarm system and ensure that it can effectively protect lives and property in the event of a fire. While more frequent inspections, such as quarterly or biannually, may be conducted in specific situations or for particular systems, the standard requirement is set at annually to balance thoroughness and practicality, making it the most widely accepted interval in the industry.

4. How should smoke detectors and notification appliances in household fire alarm systems be managed?

- A. Connected without supervision
- B. Monitored for integrity**
- C. Tested monthly
- D. Replaced every year

In household fire alarm systems, it is crucial to monitor smoke detectors and notification appliances for integrity. This means ensuring that the units are functioning correctly and can detect smoke effectively, as well as confirming that the notification appliances, like alarms and beacons, can alert occupants in case of a fire. Regular integrity monitoring helps identify any issues that could compromise the system's performance, such as low battery levels, malfunctioning components, or physical damage. This proactive approach is essential for maintaining safety and compliance with fire codes, ultimately providing reliable protection for occupants. While testing devices monthly and replacing them annually are both important aspects of fire safety, they do not address the continuous oversight and assurance of system integrity that is critical for effective performance. Moreover, connecting devices without supervision does not provide any guarantee of their operational status, which could lead to dangerous situations if a fire were to occur and the system was compromised.

5. Which of the following is NOT an optional function of fire warning equipment?

- A. Notification of the fire department
- B. Monitoring of other fire safety systems
- C. Notification of burglary
- D. Issuing fire safety training**

The function of issuing fire safety training is not typically considered a part of the optional functions of fire warning equipment. Fire warning systems are primarily designed to detect and alert occupants of a fire hazard, ensuring that appropriate measures can be taken swiftly to mitigate risks. While monitoring other fire safety systems and notifying the fire department can be seen as additional capabilities that enhance overall fire safety and response, these features are still focused on the immediate concern of fire detection and response. On the other hand, issuing fire safety training falls outside the scope of what fire warning equipment is designed to do. Fire safety training involves educating individuals on fire prevention, evacuation procedures, and proper responses to fire emergencies, which necessitates a different set of tools and resources. Therefore, it is clear that while beneficial, fire safety training is not an inherent function of fire warning systems.

6. Is the statement "Chapter 11 applies to the protection of property" true or false?

- A. True
- B. False**
- C. It depends on the situation
- D. Only true for commercial properties

The correct assessment of the statement "Chapter 11 applies to the protection of property" is that it is false. Chapter 11 specifically pertains to provisions related to the life safety of occupants in buildings rather than focusing solely on property protection. While it does encompass some aspects that might affect property, its primary emphasis is on ensuring the safety of individuals in a building through various life safety and fire protection measures. Understanding this distinction is crucial as it highlights the intent and scope of the regulations within Chapter 11. It underscores the need for fire alarm technicians and other safety professionals to prioritize human safety over property concerns when making decisions related to code compliance and system design.

7. What device is used to alert occupants in case of fire?

A. A fire alarm notification appliance

B. A smoke detector

C. A fire suppression system

D. An emergency exit light

The correct answer is a fire alarm notification appliance. This device is specifically designed to alert occupants in a building about the presence of a fire or other emergency situations. Fire alarm notification appliances can come in various forms such as horns, strobe lights, or speakers, and their primary function is to ensure that all individuals within the vicinity are promptly made aware of the danger, allowing them to take appropriate action, like evacuating the building. While smoke detectors play a crucial role in fire detection by sensing smoke and triggering an alarm, they do not actively notify occupants through alert signals. Instead, they serve as an early warning system that communicates with the fire alarm control panel, which can then activate the notification appliances. Fire suppression systems are designed to control or extinguish a fire, rather than to notify people about it. Their role is more about mitigating fire damage once a fire has started, rather than ensuring that people are aware of the situation. Emergency exit lights assist with guiding people towards exits in case of an emergency but do not provide any indication of a fire or emergency situation. Their function is to illuminate exit paths and signage in low-visibility conditions, rather than to serve as a first line of notification. Thus, the fire alarm notification appliance is the device

8. In which situation would a fire watch typically be required?

A. Dinner events in public spaces

B. Fire drills in schools

C. When fire protection systems are temporarily out of service

D. In aesthetic maintenance of fire systems

A fire watch is a critical safety measure taken in circumstances where fire protection systems, such as fire alarms or sprinklers, are temporarily unavailable or out of service. In these cases, a fire watch involves having trained personnel actively monitor the area for signs of fire, ensuring that swift action can be taken if a fire does occur. The need for a fire watch becomes apparent in situations where the absence of fire suppression measures significantly increases the risk of a fire. For example, if a fire alarm system is being serviced or a sprinkler system is undergoing maintenance, the risk that an undetected fire could develop rises. Therefore, having personnel dedicated to a watch ensures that proper safety parameters are maintained until the systems are fully operational again. In contrast, dinner events in public spaces, fire drills in schools, and aesthetic maintenance of fire systems typically do not require a fire watch, as these activities either involve functioning fire safety measures or are controlled environments where risks are mitigated.

9. True or False: Detectors and appliances can be mounted using wires behind them.

- A. True
- B. False**
- C. Only if secured properly
- D. Only in residential areas

The statement is false because detectors and appliances should not be mounted using wires behind them. This practice could lead to several issues, such as making the devices difficult to service or replace and potentially creating a safety hazard if the wires were to become damaged over time. Proper installation requires that devices be mounted securely and in a manner that allows for easy access and ensures reliability in operation. Additionally, fire alarm codes and standards typically dictate that wiring should be managed according to specific guidelines to prevent interference, ensure functionality, and support maintenance efforts. This ensures that the fire alarm system operates correctly and maintains safety standards.

10. In relation to smoke alarms and obstructions, what should be avoided to ensure proper function?

- A. Placing them next to windows
- B. Installing in high humidity areas
- C. Intervening doors or barriers**
- D. Using battery power

To ensure the proper function of smoke alarms, it is crucial to avoid installing them in a location where they are obstructed by intervening doors or barriers. Smoke alarms are designed to detect smoke particles that are present in the air, and any physical barrier can inhibit the movement of smoke towards the alarm, potentially delaying detection of a fire. When an alarm is blocked by a door or similar obstruction, it may not activate in a timely manner during smoke development, thereby compromising the safety of individuals in the vicinity. Choosing appropriate locations for installation—free from obstructions—is an essential practice for effective fire detection systems. Other factors like humidity, power source, and proximity to windows also play important roles in smoke alarm function, but the immediate concern with barriers is the direct impact on the smoke detection capability. Therefore, ensuring that smoke alarms are placed in unobstructed areas allows for swift detection of smoke, which is key to fire safety.

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://tfm13txfirealarmtech13.examzify.com>

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

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