

TXDOH Basic Code Enforcement Practice Test (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. Under Local Government Code Chapter 214, actions by a home-rule municipality against owners not in substantial compliance concern what type of property?**
 - A. Residential Property**
 - B. Commercial Property**
 - C. Industrial Property**
 - D. Agricultural Property**

- 2. A comprehensive plan typically includes which four plan sections?**
 - A. Land use plan, Transportation Plan, Community Facilities, and the Policy Document**
 - B. Economic Development Plan, Housing Plan, Utilities Plan, and Public Safety Plan**
 - C. Parks Plan, Roads Plan, Schools Plan, and Environmental Plan**
 - D. Agriculture Plan, Industry Plan, Tourism Plan, and Infrastructure Plan**

- 3. When a junk vehicle has been taken into custody, by what day must the owner be notified?**
 - A. 5th day**
 - B. 10th day**
 - C. 15th day**
 - D. 20th day**

- 4. Which of the following is NOT one of the two basic types of signs?**
 - A. Permanent**
 - B. Temporary**
 - C. Indoor and outdoor**
 - D. Regulatory and advertisement**

- 5. What land use areas are typically listed in a zoning ordinance?**
 - A. Residential, Commercial, Industrial, and Agricultural**
 - B. Industrial Only**
 - C. Agricultural Only**
 - D. Commercial and Industrial**

- 6. Weeds means all rank and uncultivated vegetable growth or matter that has grown more than _____ in height.**
- A. 24 inches**
 - B. 36 inches**
 - C. 48 inches**
 - D. 60 inches**
- 7. How may a potential juror be excused from serving?**
- A. Venire cannot speak, read, or write the English language**
 - B. Financial hardship**
 - C. Personal relationship with a party**
 - D. Past service on a jury**
- 8. Before a home-rule city's council may adopt a general zoning scheme, the city must?**
- A. Plan**
 - B. Referendum**
 - C. Enabling Act**
 - D. Voter Approval**
- 9. What is the most common limitation of signs?**
- A. Height**
 - B. Size of the sign**
 - C. Color**
 - D. Location**
- 10. An abandoned motor vehicle is considered inoperable if it is more than 5 years old and has been left unattended on public property for more than how many hours?**
- A. 24 hours**
 - B. 48 hours**
 - C. 72 hours**
 - D. 96 hours**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Under Local Government Code Chapter 214, actions by a home-rule municipality against owners not in substantial compliance concern what type of property?

- A. Residential Property**
- B. Commercial Property**
- C. Industrial Property**
- D. Agricultural Property**

The main idea is that this part of the Local Government Code authorizes home-rule municipalities to take enforcement actions when owners are not in substantial compliance specifically for places where people live. The authority described under Chapter 214 is aimed at dealing with nuisances and maintenance issues in residential properties to protect occupants and neighborhoods. While other types of property—commercial, industrial, or agricultural—must comply with codes too, the enforcement provisions in this chapter are focused on residential housing. So the best answer is residential property.

2. A comprehensive plan typically includes which four plan sections?

- A. Land use plan, Transportation Plan, Community Facilities, and the Policy Document**
- B. Economic Development Plan, Housing Plan, Utilities Plan, and Public Safety Plan**
- C. Parks Plan, Roads Plan, Schools Plan, and Environmental Plan**
- D. Agriculture Plan, Industry Plan, Tourism Plan, and Infrastructure Plan**

Understanding how a comprehensive plan guides growth comes down to its four main parts: where and how development will occur, how people and goods will move, what public services and infrastructure are needed, and the policy framework that implements the plan. The land use plan sets out the future arrangement of uses—residential, commercial, industrial, and open space—and provides a map and guidance for zoning decisions. The transportation plan outlines the networks and modes that connect those places—streets, transit, pedestrians, and cyclists—and considers access and efficiency. The community facilities plan identifies the location and adequacy of essential services and infrastructure—schools, libraries, parks, utilities, and public safety—to support growth. The policy document articulates goals, policies, and implementation steps that align regulations, programs, and capital investments with the plan’s vision. Together, these sections give a cohesive framework for guiding development, investments, and decision-making.

3. When a junk vehicle has been taken into custody, by what day must the owner be notified?

- A. 5th day
- B. 10th day**
- C. 15th day
- D. 20th day

When a junk vehicle is taken into custody, there is a need to give the owner timely notice so they have a fair chance to respond or reclaim the vehicle. The required deadline for that notification is the tenth day after seizure. This timing strikes a balance between providing due process to the owner and keeping the enforcement process moving forward. A shorter window could hinder proper notification, while a longer one would slow down the removal of junk vehicles and could prolong nuisance or hazard on the property.

4. Which of the following is NOT one of the two basic types of signs?

- A. Permanent
- B. Temporary
- C. Indoor and outdoor**
- D. Regulatory and advertisement

The main idea is that signs are commonly categorized by how long they're intended to stay in place: permanent signs and temporary signs. This duration-based distinction is the fundamental way we classify signs for planning and enforcement. Indoor and outdoor describes where a sign is placed, not how long it lasts, so it's not considered a basic type of sign. A sign can be permanent or temporary whether it's indoors or outdoors. That's why this option is the one that isn't a basic type. For context, permanent and temporary are the two foundational categories; regulatory and advertisement refer to the sign's purpose or use, which is a different way of classifying signs, not the duration.

5. What land use areas are typically listed in a zoning ordinance?

- A. Residential, Commercial, Industrial, and Agricultural**
- B. Industrial Only
- C. Agricultural Only
- D. Commercial and Industrial

The concept is that zoning ordinances organize land into broad use types to regulate what can be built where. The four main land use areas typically listed are residential, commercial, industrial, and agricultural. Residential covers housing of all types; commercial includes shops, offices, and services; industrial encompasses manufacturing and related activities; and agricultural relates to farming and rural uses. This framework helps planners guide development, protect neighborhood character, and ensure services and infrastructure fit the intended land uses. The other options narrow the scope incorrectly—industrial only omits housing and farms, agricultural only omits housing and business, and commercial and industrial omits housing and farming. While many codes later add other categories or mixed-use provisions, these four form the standard core.

6. Weeds means all rank and uncultivated vegetable growth or matter that has grown more than _____ in height.

- A. 24 inches
- B. 36 inches**
- C. 48 inches
- D. 60 inches

The main idea is the specific height at which unmanaged vegetation is classified as weeds. In this standard, weeds are any rank, uncultivated growth that has grown taller than 36 inches (three feet). This 3-foot threshold is used to flag nuisance vegetation that can affect safety, sanitation, and appearance, prompting property owners or enforcement to take action to remove or trim it. The other heights aren't used here: 24 inches would trigger action sooner, while 48 or 60 inches would allow much taller growth before intervention.

7. How may a potential juror be excused from serving?

- A. Venire cannot speak, read, or write the English language**
- B. Financial hardship
- C. Personal relationship with a party
- D. Past service on a jury

Being able to understand and participate in proceedings is essential for a juror. If a potential juror cannot speak, read, or write English, they would be unable to follow testimony, understand questions, or apply the judge's instructions, which are all necessary to render a fair and informed verdict. That language barrier undermines the ability to serve effectively, so the juror is excused. Financial hardship, personal relationship with a party, or prior jury service can be reasons someone might be postponed or excused in some situations, but they do not universally prevent someone from serving in the way that not understanding the language would. The clear disqualifier here is the lack of English comprehension, which directly impacts the ability to participate in the trial.

8. Before a home-rule city's council may adopt a general zoning scheme, the city must?

- A. Plan**
- B. Referendum
- C. Enabling Act
- D. Voter Approval

Before a home-rule city's council may adopt a general zoning scheme, the city needs to have a guiding plan in place. A master plan or comprehensive plan lays out how land should be used across the city, where growth should occur, and where public facilities and infrastructure belong. Zoning regulations are the tool that implements this plan, turning long-range goals into rules that govern where residential, commercial, and industrial uses can go. Without that planning framework, zoning decisions could be ad hoc and out of balance with future development. Voter approval, an enabling act, or a referendum isn't the basic prerequisite for adopting zoning in a home-rule city—the planning step is.

9. What is the most common limitation of signs?

- A. Height
- B. Size of the sign**
- C. Color
- D. Location

The most common limitation on signs is their size because the allowable sign area is the standard, universal rule used to control how much information a sign can display and how much frontage it can occupy. Size is easy to quantify and enforce, and it directly impacts visibility, clutter, and compatibility with the surrounding streetscape. While height, color, and location are regulated in many contexts, they are more variable or secondary to the overall area limit, which is why size tends to be the primary restriction.

10. An abandoned motor vehicle is considered inoperable if it is more than 5 years old and has been left unattended on public property for more than how many hours?

- A. 24 hours
- B. 48 hours**
- C. 72 hours
- D. 96 hours

In code enforcement, a vehicle is considered abandoned and inoperable when two conditions are met: the vehicle is more than five years old, and it has been left unattended on public property for a specific duration. That duration in this case is 48 hours. The 48-hour window gives a practical timeframe to distinguish a temporary situation from true abandonment, while the five-year age threshold focuses the rule on older vehicles that are more likely to be neglected rather than just temporarily parked. Why 48 hours works here: a shorter period like 24 hours could sweep in vehicles that are simply waiting for a tow, a repair, or a quick stop, whereas a longer period like 72 or 96 hours would delay removal of a real nuisance. The combination ensures timely action on genuine abandonment without overreach.

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://txdohbasiccodeenforcement.examzify.com>

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

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