

Washington Administrative Code(WAC) and Revised Code of Washington (RCW) Electrical Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

- 1. According to WAC, how should electrical junction boxes be installed?**
 - A. Sealed and hidden from view**
 - B. Accessible for future maintenance**
 - C. With no cover for easy access**
 - D. Installed only in crawl spaces**
- 2. What type of permit is required for most electrical installations in Washington?**
 - A. A building permit**
 - B. An electrical permit**
 - C. A contractor permit**
 - D. A safety permit**
- 3. Where can information about electrical safety be found in the RCW?**
 - A. RCW 19.18**
 - B. RCW 19.28**
 - C. RCW 19.30**
 - D. RCW 19.58**
- 4. What is the maximum allowed voltage for low voltage systems according to WAC?**
 - A. 120 volts**
 - B. 60 volts**
 - C. 240 volts**
 - D. 30 volts**
- 5. Can a homeowner legally perform electrical work in their own residence?**
 - A. No, homeowners are not permitted to do any electrical work**
 - B. Yes, but they must still obtain a permit and follow the code**
 - C. Yes, without any restrictions**
 - D. Only if they have prior electrical experience**

- 6. What rating must all electrical equipment have if used in a damp location?**
- A. A Wet or Damp Location rating**
 - B. A Fire-Proof rating**
 - C. A High Voltage rating**
 - D. No specific rating required**
- 7. Which section of the RCW pertains to the licensing requirements for electricians?**
- A. RCW 19.28**
 - B. RCW 19.30**
 - C. RCW 19.25**
 - D. RCW 19.50**
- 8. What must happen if a circuit needs to be re-configured according to WAC?**
- A. It can be done without any inspections**
 - B. Only the owner can perform the reconfiguration**
 - C. It must comply with current code requirements and be inspected**
 - D. No requirements are necessary for minor changes**
- 9. What is the consequence of repeated code violations according to the WAC?**
- A. Supply of warnings**
 - B. Probationary licenses**
 - C. Increased scrutiny on future applications**
 - D. License suspension or revocation**
- 10. What type of permit is required for electrical homes inside mobile homes?**
- A. Standard Home Permit**
 - B. FAS (Factory Assembled Structure) Permit**
 - C. Temporary Electrical Permit**
 - D. Mobile Home Special Permit**

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. According to WAC, how should electrical junction boxes be installed?

- A. Sealed and hidden from view**
- B. Accessible for future maintenance**
- C. With no cover for easy access**
- D. Installed only in crawl spaces**

Electrical junction boxes must be installed in a manner that ensures they are accessible for future maintenance. This principle is essential for safety and functionality; having easy access allows electricians or maintenance personnel to inspect and service the junction boxes without requiring invasive measures, such as tearing down walls or ceiling panels. Accessibility is a key requirement in the Washington Administrative Code to promote both the safety of the electrical system and adherence to local building codes. On the other hand, sealing and hiding junction boxes from view would make future maintenance difficult, potentially leading to hazardous situations if issues arise. Not having a cover would not comply with safety regulations, as covers are vital for protecting the wiring and connections. Lastly, limiting installation only to crawl spaces would be impractical and does not align with general practices, as junction boxes are needed in various locations throughout the structure for proper electrical connectivity.

2. What type of permit is required for most electrical installations in Washington?

- A. A building permit**
- B. An electrical permit**
- C. A contractor permit**
- D. A safety permit**

An electrical permit is essential for most electrical installations in Washington because it ensures that the work complies with the state and local electrical codes, which are designed to ensure safety and reliability. Securing this permit is a legal requirement for both residential and commercial electrical projects, including new installations, replacements, modifications, and repairs. The electrical permit process often involves submitting plans for the work and may require inspections to verify that the work is completed according to code. This oversight protects both the property owners and the public by ensuring that installations are safe and meet minimum safety standards. While a building permit might be needed for general construction work, it does not specifically address the requirements for electrical work, making it insufficient on its own. Similarly, contractor permits and safety permits may have their applications but do not cover the specific requirements for ensuring electrical safety and compliance like an electrical permit does.

3. Where can information about electrical safety be found in the RCW?

- A. RCW 19.18**
- B. RCW 19.28**
- C. RCW 19.30**
- D. RCW 19.58**

The correct answer is based on the content of RCW 19.28, which specifically addresses the safety regulations related to electrical installations and provides guidelines regarding the licensing and safety requirements for electricians in Washington State. This chapter outlines the legal framework that governs the safe practice of electrical work, ensuring compliance with state laws designed to protect public safety. Other choices do not pertain to electrical safety in the same way. For instance, RCW 19.18 primarily deals with the regulation of certain types of products and does not focus on electrical safety. RCW 19.30 is related to a different area of law, and RCW 19.58 does not specifically cover electrical safety regulations either. Thus, RCW 19.28 serves as the relevant reference for electrical safety standards in Washington.

4. What is the maximum allowed voltage for low voltage systems according to WAC?

- A. 120 volts**
- B. 60 volts**
- C. 240 volts**
- D. 30 volts**

The maximum allowed voltage for low voltage systems as per WAC is 60 volts. This classification is important because systems operating at or below this voltage threshold are typically considered low voltage systems, which often have different standards, requirements, and safety considerations than higher voltage systems. Low voltage systems are used in applications that minimize risks and enhance safety, such as in telecommunications, alarm systems, and some types of lighting. When working in electrical installations, understanding the voltage levels is crucial for compliance with safety regulations and for implementing appropriate protective measures. Systems exceeding 60 volts generally fall into a different category and are subject to more stringent requirements as specified in the National Electrical Code and local codes.

5. Can a homeowner legally perform electrical work in their own residence?

- A. No, homeowners are not permitted to do any electrical work**
- B. Yes, but they must still obtain a permit and follow the code**
- C. Yes, without any restrictions**
- D. Only if they have prior electrical experience**

Homeowners in Washington can legally perform electrical work in their own residence, but they are required to obtain a permit and adhere to the relevant electrical codes. This regulation ensures that any electrical installations or modifications are safe and meet the standards set forth by the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) and the National Electrical Code (NEC). By requiring permits and adherence to codes, the state seeks to minimize risks associated with electrical work, such as fire hazards or equipment failure, ultimately protecting both the homeowner and the public. Permitting processes include inspections, which help ensure that the work is performed correctly and safely. This requirement reflects the understanding that while homeowners may have the right to work on their own properties, it is essential for safety and compliance that their work meets established standards. The other options do not align with the established regulations; some restrict homeowner abilities without just cause, while others either allow unrestricted work or presume prior experience is necessary, which is not a requirement as long as proper permits and codes are followed.

6. What rating must all electrical equipment have if used in a damp location?

- A. A Wet or Damp Location rating**
- B. A Fire-Proof rating**
- C. A High Voltage rating**
- D. No specific rating required**

In areas classified as damp locations, it is crucial for electrical equipment to possess a Wet or Damp Location rating. This specification ensures that the equipment can withstand conditions such as moisture and humidity without compromising safety or functionality. Equipment used in these environments may be exposed to greater risks, such as corrosion or short-circuiting, if it is not designed to handle moisture. A Wet or Damp Location rating indicates that the equipment has undergone testing and meets particular standards for durability and safety in those conditions. This focus on appropriate ratings helps prevent electrical hazards and ensures that the equipment can operate reliably where moisture is a factor. Other ratings, such as fire-proof or high voltage, do not address the unique challenges presented by damp environments, underscoring the importance of the correct rating in ensuring safety and compliance with electrical standards.

7. Which section of the RCW pertains to the licensing requirements for electricians?

- A. RCW 19.28**
- B. RCW 19.30**
- C. RCW 19.25**
- D. RCW 19.50**

RCW 19.28 specifically addresses the licensing requirements for electricians. This section outlines the various categories of electrical licenses, the qualifications needed for different levels of licensure, and the process that individuals must follow to obtain their licensing. It serves as the foundation for regulating the practice of electrical work in Washington State, ensuring that electricians meet the necessary standards of competency and safety. In contrast, other sections mentioned do not focus specifically on licensure: RCW 19.30 deals with the regulation of other aspects of electrical practices but not licensing; RCW 19.25 and RCW 19.50 cover different regulatory issues within the energy and utilities sector, which are unrelated to the licensing of electricians. Thus, RCW 19.28 is the correct reference for understanding what is required to become a licensed electrician in the state.

8. What must happen if a circuit needs to be re-configured according to WAC?

- A. It can be done without any inspections**
- B. Only the owner can perform the reconfiguration**
- C. It must comply with current code requirements and be inspected**
- D. No requirements are necessary for minor changes**

When a circuit needs to be reconfigured, it is essential that the changes comply with current code requirements and undergo inspection. This ensures that any modifications meet safety standards and are in accordance with the regulations set forth in the Washington Administrative Code (WAC). The reasoning behind this requirement is to maintain safety in electrical installations, prevent hazards, and ensure that any changes do not compromise the integrity of the electrical system. Reconfiguring a circuit can introduce new risks or incompatibilities if not done according to the latest codes, which establish minimum safety practices and standards. Inspections by a qualified professional verify that the work adheres to these requirements, helping to catch any potential issues that could arise from improper configurations. The emphasis on compliance and inspection underscores the importance of following established safety protocols in electrical work, which is integral to ensuring the welfare of users and the longevity of electrical systems.

9. What is the consequence of repeated code violations according to the WAC?

- A. Supply of warnings**
- B. Probationary licenses**
- C. Increased scrutiny on future applications**
- D. License suspension or revocation**

Repeated code violations can lead to severe consequences, including license suspension or revocation. This outcome emphasizes the importance of adhering to electrical codes and regulations, which are designed to ensure safety and compliance in electrical practices. When violations occur multiple times, it indicates a disregard for established standards, prompting regulatory bodies to take stricter actions to maintain public safety and professional integrity. This corrective measure serves as a deterrent, encouraging license holders to consistently comply with the laws set forth in the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) and the Revised Code of Washington (RCW). The aim is not just punitive; it also seeks to protect the public by ensuring that only qualified and responsible individuals are permitted to operate within the electrical trade. In contrast, alternative responses like warnings, probation, or increased scrutiny may be used for initial or less severe violations but are not as impactful as suspension or revocation in encouraging compliance over time.

10. What type of permit is required for electrical homes inside mobile homes?

- A. Standard Home Permit**
- B. FAS (Factory Assembled Structure) Permit**
- C. Temporary Electrical Permit**
- D. Mobile Home Special Permit**

A Factory Assembled Structure (FAS) Permit is required for electrical work on homes inside mobile homes due to the unique construction and installation standards that govern these structures. Mobile homes, being manufactured in a factory setting, fall under specific regulations distinct from traditional site-built homes. The FAS Permit ensures that all electrical installations comply with safety standards and building codes appropriate for factory-assembled structures. This type of permit addresses concerns regarding electrical systems within mobile homes, ensuring that they are installed correctly and safely according to established regulations. In contrast, the other types of permits do not appropriately address the specific requirements for mobile homes. A Standard Home Permit typically applies to conventional residential constructions, while a Temporary Electrical Permit is intended for short-term electrical installations. The Mobile Home Special Permit, while appearing relevant, is not the correct designation as that terminology does not align with the established classification of permits for mobile home electrical work within Washington's regulatory framework.