ONTARIO BUILDING CODE PRACTICE EXAM (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.

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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!

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Questions

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1. **Which of the following is not a requirement for a fire suppression system in a commercial kitchen?**

   A. Automatic shut-off valves

   B. Fire extinguishers

   C. Sprinklers above cooking equipment

   D. Hood suppression system

2. **What is the minimum height required for a handrail on a stairway in a commercial building?**

   A. 750 mm

   B. 850 mm

   C. 950 mm

   D. 1050 mm

3. **Which of the following is not a requirement for a fire-rated partition in a commercial building?**

   A. Non-combustible materials

   B. Minimum thickness of 100 mm

   C. Labeled with a fire rating

   D. Continuous from floor to underside of roof sheathing

4. **What is the minimum number of exits required for a high-rise building with a capacity of 500 people?**

   A. 1

   B. 2

   C. 3

   D. 4

5. **Which of the following is not a requirement for an accessible washroom in a residential building?**

   A. Grab bars

   B. Barrier-free entrance

   C. Sink with knee clearance

   D. Bathtub with built-in seat

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6. Which of the following is not a requirement for a fire-rated wall assembly in a high-rise building?

A. Non-combustible materials

B. Labeled with a fire rating

C. Continuous from floor to underside of roof sheathing

D. Minimum thickness of 50 mm

7. Which of the following is not a requirement for a barrier-free entrance in a residential building?

A. Ramped approach

B. Automatic door opener

C. Minimum width of 0.9 meters

D. Level landing at entrance

8. What is the minimum number of plumbing fixtures required for a restaurant with a capacity of 100 people?

A. 4

B. 5

C. 6

D. 7

9. Which of the following is not a requirement for an accessible washroom in a residential building?

A. Grab bars

B. Barrier-free entrance

C. Sink with knee clearance

D. Bathtub with built-in seat

10. Which of the following is not a requirement for an accessible route in an industrial building?

A. Ramp with handrails

B. Level landings at changes of direction

C. Minimum width of 1.2 meters

D. Non-slip surface

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which of the following is not a requirement for a fire suppression system in a commercial kitchen?

A. Automatic shut-off valves

B. Fire extinguishers

C. Sprinklers above cooking equipment

D. Hood suppression system

A fire suppression system in a commercial kitchen is designed to quickly and effectively put out any potential fires to ensure the safety of the building and its occupants. This system typically includes automatic shut-off valves, sprinklers above cooking equipment, and a hood suppression system. These features work together to detect and contain any fire that may start in the kitchen. Option B, fire extinguishers, while beneficial in a kitchen setting, is not a requirement for a fire suppression system. Fire extinguishers can still be useful as additional fire safety measures, but they are not the primary means of suppression in a commercial kitchen. Therefore, the other options are incorrect because they are all necessary components of a fire suppression system in a commercial kitchen.

2. What is the minimum height required for a handrail on a stairway in a commercial building?

A. 750 mm

B. 850 mm

C. 950 mm

D. 1050 mm

While A, B, and D may seem like feasible options, they are actually incorrect because they all fall below the minimum height requirement for a handrail on a stairway in a commercial building. According to building codes, the minimum height for handrails on stairways in commercial buildings is 950 mm (3 feet 1 inch) from the surface of the tread. This height is determined based on safety standards and is intended to provide proper support and balance for individuals using the stairs. Therefore, option C, with a height of 950 mm, is the correct answer. It is important to note that building codes and regulations may vary by location, so it is always best to check with local authorities for specific guidelines.

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3. Which of the following is not a requirement for a fire-rated partition in a commercial building?

A. Non-combustible materials

B. Minimum thickness of 100 mm

C. Labeled with a fire rating

D. Continuous from floor to underside of roof sheathing

A fire-rated partition is an essential element in commercial building design, intended to provide a barrier against the spread of fire and smoke. Various requirements govern the construction and performance of these partitions, ensuring they effectively serve their purpose. One of the key characteristics of a fire-rated partition is that it must be constructed from non-combustible materials. This ensures that the materials used can withstand heat and prevent fire from spreading through the partition. Additionally, fire-rated partitions typically have a specified minimum thickness, often around 100 mm, to achieve the desired fire resistance rating. Another critical requirement is that these partitions are labeled with their fire rating, which provides clear information about the amount of time the partition can resist fire. This labeling helps ensure compliance with building codes and informs stakeholders about the safety measures in place. In contrast, while fire-rated partitions should be continuous from the floor to the underside of the roof sheathing to maintain their effectiveness and integrity, there are scenarios in building design where this may not be a strict requirement, especially in cases where other design elements or code provisions apply. Thus, the lack of a stringent rule enforced in every instance makes this point less universally applicable compared to the other outlined requirements.

4. What is the minimum number of exits required for a high-rise building with a capacity of 500 people?

A. 1

B. 2

C. 3

D. 4

A) 1 is not the correct answer because a high-rise building with a capacity of 500 people is required to have at least 3 exits for safety regulations. B) 2 is also not the correct answer because it is below the minimum requirement of 3 exits for a high-rise building with a capacity of 500 people. D) 4 is not the correct answer because it is an excessive number of exits for a high-rise building with a capacity of 500 people, as it only requires a minimum of 3 exits for safety regulations.

5. Which of the following is not a requirement for an accessible washroom in a residential building?

A. Grab bars

B. Barrier-free entrance

C. Sink with knee clearance

D. Bathtub with built-in seat

A requirement for an accessible washroom in a residential building would include grab bars, a barrier-free entrance, and a sink with knee clearance. A bathtub with a built-in seat is not a requirement as it may still be difficult for some individuals with limited mobility to access and use. Other requirements for an accessible washroom could include a wider entrance door, lever door handles, and a raised toilet seat.

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6. Which of the following is not a requirement for a fire-rated wall assembly in a high-rise building?

A. Non-combustible materials

B. Labeled with a fire rating

C. Continuous from floor to underside of roof sheathing

D. Minimum thickness of 50 mm

Fire-rated wall assemblies are specifically designed to prevent the spread of fire in high-rise buildings. Therefore, all of the other options listed are requirements for a fire-rated wall assembly in a high-rise building. Non-combustible materials and a fire rating label are necessary to ensure that the wall can withstand high temperatures and flames. The wall must also be continuous from the floor to the underside of the roof sheathing, preventing any gaps that could allow a fire to spread. The minimum thickness of a fire-rated wall assembly can vary based on building codes and regulations, but it is not a specific requirement for a high-rise building. Therefore, the correct answer is D.

7. Which of the following is not a requirement for a barrier-free entrance in a residential building?

A. Ramped approach

B. Automatic door opener

C. Minimum width of 0.9 meters

D. Level landing at entrance

A ramped approach, automatic door opener, and level landing at the entrance are all requirements for a barrier-free entrance in a residential building. The minimum width of 0.9 meters is not a requirement for a barrier-free entrance. A wider entrance may be more desirable for accessibility purposes, but it is not a mandatory requirement.

8. What is the minimum number of plumbing fixtures required for a restaurant with a capacity of 100 people?

A. 4

B. 5

C. 6

D. 7

A restaurant with a capacity of 100 people typically requires a minimum of 6 plumbing fixtures, including 2 restrooms for customers and 1 restroom for employees. Option A is incorrect because it is too few fixtures for a restaurant with such a high capacity. Option B is incorrect because it does not account for the need for employee restroom facilities. Option D is incorrect because it is only one fixture more than the correct answer, and may not provide sufficient facilities for the number of patrons the restaurant can hold. The minimum number of plumbing fixtures required for a restaurant is determined by local regulations and building codes, and should be strictly adhered to for the health and safety of both customers and employees.

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9. Which of the following is not a requirement for an accessible washroom in a residential building?

A. Grab bars

B. Barrier-free entrance

C. Sink with knee clearance

D. Bathtub with built-in seat

Accessible washrooms in a residential building require certain features to accommodate individuals with disabilities. Grab bars and a barrier-free entrance are necessary for individuals with mobility impairments, while a sink with knee clearance allows for individuals using wheelchairs. However, a bathtub with a built-in seat may not be necessary for individuals with disabilities as it may not provide enough support or may not be compatible with different types of disabilities.

10. Which of the following is not a requirement for an accessible route in an industrial building?

A. Ramp with handrails

B. Level landings at changes of direction

C. Minimum width of 1.2 meters

D. Non-slip surface

An accessible route in an industrial building should have a minimum width of 1.5 meters, not 1.2 meters. Options A, B, and D are all requirements for an accessible route in an industrial building, making them incorrect choices. A ramp with handrails and a non-slip surface are necessary for individuals with physical disabilities or impairments, while level landings at changes of direction provide a smooth and safe transition for those using assistive devices. Therefore, option C is the only incorrect choice as it does not meet the minimum width requirement for an accessible route in an industrial building.

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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://ontariobuildingcode.examzify.com

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

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