PLUMBING LEVEL 2 – COLD WATER SYSTEMS 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.

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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. When installing flexible tails to a kitchen sink taps?

A. Avoid kinks

B. Bend sharply near the faucet

C. Use metal tails only

D. Tie in with zip ties

2. When re-piping a building from copper to PEX, what are the main considerations regarding expansion, fittings, and code compliance?

A. Plan for expansion loops where necessary, use compatible fittings, protect against kinks, and ensure all work complies with local codes and inspection requirements.

B. Use only copper-compatible fittings, ignore expansion, and skip inspections.

C. Do not protect against kinks; it's OK.

D. Re-piping is done without permits.

3. What are common signs of a leaking cold water pipe, and what is the immediate action to take?

A. Wet spots, dampness, or running water sounds; shut off the main supply if necessary and locate the leak for repair.

B. A drop in water meter reading; call emergency.

C. All faucets suddenly running cold; replace water heater.

D. The sound of birds chirping near pipe.

4. Which considerations are essential when selecting pipe sizes for a multi-story building's cold water system?

A. Peak demand, vertical elevation losses, friction losses, farthest fixture pressure, and use hydraulic calculations or code tables to determine sizes and PRV placements.

B. Only pipe length and color.

C. Only number of fixtures, ignoring elevation.

D. Only the material cost of pipe.

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5. What is the difference between a stop valve and a service valve in domestic pipework?

A. They are identical in function.

B. A stop valve shuts off water to a supply line; a service valve isolates a portion of pipe or a fixture for maintenance.

C. A stop valve is used to filter water; a service valve heats water.

D. A stop valve is only used for gas lines.

6. Where is an air gap required in cold water installations, and why?

A. At points where a fixture drains to a non-potable source (e.g., dishwasher, washing machine, or at a sink for drain connections) to prevent siphonage back into the supply.

B. On the hot water supply line.

C. Inside the main water meter.

D. On the irrigation line.

7. Which one of the following contains a test procedure for the hydrostatic pressure testing of metallic pipework?

A. BSEN 805-4:2010

B. BSEN 805-3:2010

C. BSEN 805-2:2008

D. BSEN 805-5:2015

8. If there is movement in the cistern mounting, what is the recommended initial action?

A. Strengthen the cistern support

B. Repair the pipes first

C. Fill the cistern with water

D. Replace the cistern lid

9. Which standard applies to the installation of hot and cold water services inside domestic buildings?

A. BSEN 806

B. BSEN 806A

C. BSEN 806-B

D. BS EN 806

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10. Which statement correctly identifies the typical methods used to secure and support cold water pipe runs to minimize movement and noise?

A. Clips, brackets, protective sleeves, anti-vibration hangers, and thermal expansion allowances.

B. Electrical conduit, pipe insulation, painting, and mounting to drywall.

C. Rigid support bands and silicone sealant only.

D. None of the above.

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. When installing flexible tails to a kitchen sink taps?

A. Avoid kinks

B. Bend sharply near the faucet

C. Use metal tails only

D. Tie in with zip ties

Avoiding kinks is essential when installing flexible tails to kitchen taps. A kink in the hose narrows the passage, reducing water flow and putting stress on the fittings. That stress can lead to leaks or hose failure over time. To prevent this, route the tails with smooth, gentle curves and leave a little slack so the faucet can move and expand with temperature changes. Don't bend sharply near the faucet, as that's where kinks are most likely to form. Secure the hoses with appropriate supports—not tight zip ties that could crush or pinch them—so they stay in a natural, unobstructed path. Using hoses of the correct type and length helps ensure a reliable, leak-free connection.

2. When re-piping a building from copper to PEX, what are the main considerations regarding expansion, fittings, and code compliance?

A. Plan for expansion loops where necessary, use compatible fittings, protect against kinks, and ensure all work complies with local codes and inspection requirements.

B. Use only copper-compatible fittings, ignore expansion, and skip inspections.

C. Do not protect against kinks; it's OK.

D. Re-piping is done without permits.

The main idea is that when switching from copper to PEX you must plan for movement, use fittings designed for PEX, and follow the local code requirements. PEX expands and contracts with temperature changes, so long runs or sections that could move need expansion loops or offsets to absorb that movement and prevent stress on joints. Choose fittings that are specifically rated for PEX and the joining method you're using (crimp, clamp, or push-to-connect); copper-only fittings aren't automatically suitable for PEX and can lead to leaks if not designed for this material. Protect against kinks by routing with gentle bends and providing proper supports and bend radii, since sharp bends or pinched sections can weaken the line and cause failures. Finally, comply with local codes and obtain required permits and inspections; this ensures the installation, materials, pressure testing, and workmanship meet safety standards. Skipping expansion planning, using incompatible fittings, ignoring bend protection, or avoiding inspections all increase the risk of leaks, failures, and noncompliance.

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3. What are common signs of a leaking cold water pipe, and what is the immediate action to take?

A. Wet spots, dampness, or running water sounds; shut off the main supply if necessary and locate the leak for repair.

B. A drop in water meter reading; call emergency.

C. All faucets suddenly running cold; replace water heater.

D. The sound of birds chirping near pipe.

When a cold water pipe leaks, you'll often see wet spots or dampness on surfaces and hear running water or dripping even when no taps are on. These signs show water is escaping the pipe. Because a leak can waste a lot of water and cause damage quickly, the immediate step is to shut off the main water supply (or the nearest accessible shutoff) to stop the flow. Once the water is off, you can locate the leak to arrange repair, which could involve tightening a fitting, replacing a damaged section, or other fixes. If you're unsure or the leak is severe, call a plumber. The other options don't fit: a drop in the water meter can be from usage or meter issues, all faucets running cold points to a heater issue rather than a leak in the cold pipe, and birds chirping isn't related to plumbing.

4. Which considerations are essential when selecting pipe sizes for a multi-story building's cold water system?

A. Peak demand, vertical elevation losses, friction losses, farthest fixture pressure, and use hydraulic calculations or code tables to determine sizes and PRV placements.

B. Only pipe length and color.

C. Only number of fixtures, ignoring elevation.

D. Only the material cost of pipe.

Selecting pipe sizes for a multi-story cold-water system is about meeting the hydraulic needs of the entire building rather than just how long the pipes are or what they look like. You have to account for peak demand so the system can deliver enough flow when many fixtures run at once. Vertical elevation losses matter because water has to be pumped and pressurized up to higher floors, so pressure drops as you rise. Friction losses accumulate along straight runs and fittings, reducing pressure the farther water travels. The farthest fixture (often the highest point) is most at risk of low pressure, so you size for adequate pressure there and place pressure-reducing valves or pressure zones as needed to keep pressures within code limits. Using hydraulic calculations or code tables ensures the selected diameters provide sufficient flow and pressure while controlling losses; it also helps determine where PRVs should be placed and how the system is zoned. Focusing on pipe length and color ignores flow capacity and pressure needs. Looking only at the number of fixtures while ignoring elevation misses pressure changes due to height. Considering only material cost neglects whether the chosen sizes will actually meet demand and code requirements.

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5. What is the difference between a stop valve and a service valve in domestic pipework?

A. They are identical in function.

B. A stop valve shuts off water to a supply line; a service valve isolates a portion of pipe or a fixture for maintenance.

C. A stop valve is used to filter water; a service valve heats water.

D. A stop valve is only used for gas lines.

The key idea is how valves control water for maintenance versus overall shut-off. A stop valve is placed on a supply line to shut off water to that line or section, typically used to stop flow to a part of the system in an emergency or when replacing that section. A service valve, on the other hand, is meant to isolate a specific portion of pipe or a fixture so you can perform maintenance or repair without shutting down water to the rest of the system. This targeted isolation is very handy for fixing a faucet, toilet, or a short length of pipe while other areas stay pressurized. So the statement that describes one valve stopping flow to a line and the other isolating a portion of pipe or a fixture for maintenance is the best fit. The idea that they are identical, or that one filters water or heats it, or that they're only for gas lines, doesn't align with how these valves are actually used in domestic plumbing.

6. Where is an air gap required in cold water installations, and why?

A. At points where a fixture drains to a non-potable source (e.g., dishwasher, washing machine, or at a sink for drain connections) to prevent siphonage back into the supply.

B. On the hot water supply line.

C. Inside the main water meter.

D. On the irrigation line.

Air gaps prevent backflow by creating an unobstructed vertical space between the potable water outlet and the non-potable drain, so contaminated water cannot be siphoned back into the supply. In cold-water installations, they're required where a fixture or appliance drains to a non-potable source—like a dishwasher or washing machine—and even at a sink drain connection that could siphon back into the supply. This simple, reliable separation works even if a valve fails, because water must pass through the air gap before entering the drain, stopping any backflow into the potable system. It's not placed on hot-water lines, and it's not located inside the main meter; irrigation systems use other backflow protections rather than a standard air gap in this context.

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7. Which one of the following contains a test procedure for the hydrostatic pressure testing of metallic pipework?

A. BSEN 805-4:2010

B. BSEN 805-3:2010

C. BSEN 805-2:2008

D. BSEN 805-5:2015

Testing the integrity of metallic pipework under pressure. Hydrostatic testing checks that joints, welds, and the piping themselves can hold a pressure without leaking or failing when filled with water and pressurized beyond normal service conditions. This specific standard provides the explicit procedure for carrying out that hydrostatic test on metallic piping. It covers how to prepare the system, how to apply the test pressure, how long to maintain it, and what to observe to determine acceptance. In short, it tells you the exact steps and criteria to confirm that the installed pipework is sound. Other parts of the EN 805 series deal with different aspects of piping systems—such as general requirements, design, materials, or installation practices—rather than the actual hydrostatic test procedure. That's why this part is the one that best fits the question.

8. If there is movement in the cistern mounting, what is the recommended initial action?

A. Strengthen the cistern support

B. Repair the pipes first

C. Fill the cistern with water

D. Replace the cistern lid

When you notice movement in the cistern mounting, the first thing to do is stabilize the mounting itself. Strengthening the cistern support stops the wobble and reduces stress on the connections, which helps prevent leaks or cracks and makes the whole system more reliable. This usually means inspecting and tightening or replacing mounting bolts and brackets, and adding proper anchors or a backing support if the wall or fixing points are weak. Filling the cistern with water adds weight and doesn't fix the loose mounting, and replacing the lid doesn't address the underlying instability. Checking the pipes first isn't necessary until the mounting is secure, because the movement is caused by looseness in how the cistern is held in place, not by the pipes themselves.

9. Which standard applies to the installation of hot and cold water services inside domestic buildings?

A. BSEN 806

B. BSEN 806A

C. BSEN 806-B

D. BS EN 806

A unified standard governs how hot and cold water services are installed inside domestic buildings. BS EN 806 is the standard that covers the design, installation, testing and commissioning of water supply systems inside buildings, ensuring safety, hygiene and reliable performance for both hot and cold supplies. It specifies how pipes and fittings should be chosen and routed, how components are installed to prevent contamination and back flow, how inspections and tests are carried out, and how hot water systems are provided safely. Following this standard helps prevent issues like poor water quality, cross connections, or improper sizing and installation that could lead to leaks or scalding. Variants with suffixes (like A or B) aren't separate standards for domestic internal installations, and the general BS EN 806 designation is the correct one to reference.

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10. Which statement correctly identifies the typical methods used to secure and support cold water pipe runs to minimize movement and noise?

A. Clips, brackets, protective sleeves, anti-vibration hangers, and thermal expansion allowances.

B. Electrical conduit, pipe insulation, painting, and mounting to drywall.

C. Rigid support bands and silicone sealant only.

D. None of the above.

Securing and dampening noise in cold water pipe runs comes down to using proper supports, isolation, and allowances for movement. Pipes should be held in place with clips or brackets at appropriate intervals so they don't shift or bang against walls and framing. Protective sleeves prevent the pipe from rubbing against other surfaces, which reduces wear and squeaks. Anti-vibration hangers, using a resilient insert, help isolate the pipe from building structure vibration, cutting down noise transmitted into rooms. Thermal expansion allowances give the pipe room to lengthen or contract with temperature changes, preventing pressure stresses and rattling fittings. Together, these elements address movement, vibration, and temperature-related changes in a practical, reliable way. Other approaches like using electrical conduit, painting, or mounting to drywall don't provide the necessary secured supports, vibration isolation, or expansion tolerance, so they aren't suitable for this purpose.

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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://plumbinglvl2coldwatersys.examzify.com

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

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