



CONTRACTORS STATE LICENSE BOARD LICENSE EXAMINATION STUDY GUIDE



RESIDENTIAL REMODELING (B-2)

Content of the Examination

The Residential Remodeling (B-2) Examination is divided into six major sections:

1. Planning and Estimating (15%)

- Scope of work and code compliance
- Design and construction error identification
- Shop drawings, plans, and specifications
- Field inspection performance
- Project coordination
- Cost estimation for materials, equipment, and labor

2. Job Site Preparation (13%)

- Remove non-load-bearing walls
- Remove cabinets and countertops
- Remove plumbing and electrical fixtures
- Deliver and store materials

3. Core Trades Remodeling (25%)

- Plumbing
- Electrical
- Mechanical
- Interior walls, ceilings, and trimwork
- Flooring and stairs

4. Finish Trades Remodeling (18%)

- Cabinets
- Countertops and backsplashes
- Painting, staining, coating, and interior wall covering
- Fireplaces and mantels

5. Exterior Remodeling (13%)

- Roof Repairs
- Remodeling exterior walls
- Doors and windows

6. Safety (16%)

- Personnel safety
- Job site safety
- Demolition and material safety

Percentages are approximate

Test Policy

This is a closed-book examination. No reference materials may be used during the examination.

Test Strategy

This is a multiple-choice examination with four choices per question. Examination questions are written to provide only one BEST answer. Some questions require mathematical computation. A calculator will be provided.

There is no penalty for guessing. If you are unsure about a particular question, it is better to try to answer the question than to leave the question blank.

Plenty of time is provided to answer all examination questions, so be sure to read each question and its four choices completely and carefully before selecting the BEST possible answer to the question.

Sample Questions

Below are three typical examination questions.
The correct answer is marked with an asterisk (*).

1. According to the California Residential Code, what is the MINIMUM allowable width of a residential hallway?
 - a. 44 inches
 - b. 40 inches
 - c. 36 inches*
 - d. 32 inches
2. A contractor is removing acoustic tile from a vaulted ceiling. The scaffold rental is \$65 per day. He calculates a 6-day rental with a 15% markup. What would the equipment cost be for this part of the job?
 - a. \$448.50*
 - b. \$405.00
 - c. \$390.00
 - d. \$339.13
3. When should a steel nail plate be applied to a wood stud?
 - a. When a hole is within 1" of the edge*
 - b. When a hole is within 1-1/4" of the edge
 - c. When a hole is within 1-1/2" of the edge
 - d. When a hole is within 1-3/4" of the edge

All questions are written and reviewed by licensed contractors who are actively working in the trade

Resources

Publisher information for reference books and code is provided below. Other sources for reference books may be found online.

California code books can be viewed online:
www.dgs.ca.gov/bsc

2025 California Building Code. California Code of Regulations, Title 24. International Code Council.
PHONE: (800) 786-4452
INTERNET: www.iccsafe.org

2025 California Electrical Code. California Code of Regulations, Title 24. BNI Publications, Inc.
PHONE: (888) 264-2665
INTERNET: www.bnibooks.com

2025 California Plumbing Code. California Code of Regulations, Title 24. International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO).

PHONE: (909) 472-4100

INTERNET: iapmo.org

2025 California Residential Code. California Code of Regulations, Title 24. International Code Council.

PHONE: (800) 786-4452

INTERNET: www.iccsafe.org

Modern Cabinetmaking. Umstattd, Davis & Molzahn. Goodheart-Willcox.

PHONE: (800) 323-0440

INTERNET: www.g-w.com

State of California General Industry & Electrical Safety Orders (Cal/OSHA) and State of California Construction & Electrical Safety Orders (Cal/OSHA).

2025. California Code of Regulations, Title 8. Mancomm.

PHONE: (877) 626-2666

INTERNET: www.mancomm.com

VIEW ONLINE:

www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/LawsAndRegulations.htm

TCNA Handbook for Ceramic, Glass, and Stone Tile Installation. Tile Council of North America, Inc.

PHONE: (864) 646-8453

INTERNET: tcnatile.com

Publisher information is current as of 03/26