



CONTRACTORS STATE LICENSE BOARD LICENSE EXAMINATION STUDY GUIDE



LATHING AND PLASTERING (C-35)

Content of the Examination

The Lathing and Plastering (C-35) Examination is divided into four major sections:

- 1. Planning and Estimating (15%)**
 - Interpret plans and specifications
 - Estimate material, equipment, and labor
 - Inspect job sites
- 2. Lath Preparation and Installation (20%)**
 - Coordinate lath and plaster installation
 - Prepare substrates
 - Install metal framing and gypsum systems
 - Install lathing materials
 - Seal penetrations
- 3. Plaster/Stucco Preparation and Installation (28%)**
 - Mix and apply scratch and brown coats
 - Install plaster/stucco systems
 - Install specialty plaster/stucco installations
 - Clean up job sites
- 4. Repairs (17%)**
 - Repair plaster/stucco installations
- 5. Safety (20%)**
 - Personnel safety
 - Job site safety
 - Cal/OSHA laws and regulations
 - Personal protective equipment

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. How many square yards of plaster will be required to plaster fifteen 12' high by 3' wide decorative panels?
 - a. 540 sq. yds.
 - b. 180 sq. yds.
 - c. 120 sq. yds.
 - d. 60 sq. yds.*
2. What is the recommended mixing time when using a mixer to prepare plastic portland cement plaster for a brown coat?
 - a. 1-2 minutes
 - b. 3-5 minutes*
 - c. 18-24 minutes
 - d. 25-30 minutes
3. According to Cal/OSHA, the top handrail around scaffolding should be at what MINIMUM height?
 - a. 36"
 - b. 38"
 - c. 42"*
 - d. 48"

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

Builder's Guide to Stucco, Lath & Plaster.

Builder's Book, Inc.
PHONE: (800) 275-2665
INTERNET: www.buildersbook.com

Gypsum Construction Handbook. U.S.

Gypsum Corporation.
PHONE: (800) 950-3839
INTERNET: www.usg.com

Plaster & Drywall Assemblies Manual.

Walls & Ceilings.
PHONE: (248) 362-3700
INTERNET: www.wconline.com

Portland Cement Plaster/Stucco Manual.

Portland Cement Association (PCA).
PHONE: (847) 966-6200
INTERNET: members.cement.org/EBiz55/ProductCatalog/Product.aspx?ID=2587

State of California General Industry & Electrical Safety Orders (Cal/OSHA) and State of California Construction & Electrical Safety Orders (Cal/OSHA). 2024. California Code of Regulations, Title 8. Mancomm.

PHONE: (877) 626-2666
INTERNET: mancomm.com
VIEW ONLINE:
www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/LawsAndRegulations.htm

Publisher information is current as of 3/26