



CONTRACTORS STATE LICENSE BOARD LICENSE EXAMINATION STUDY GUIDE



LOCK AND SECURITY EQUIPMENT (C-28)

Content of the Examination

The Lock and Security Equipment (C-28) Examination is divided into six major sections:

1. Planning and Estimating (24%)

- Plans and specifications
- Job site survey
- System design
- Project and material costs

2. Doors and Hardware (18%)

- Locks, hardware, and closing devices
- Exit devices
- Doors and frames

3. Electronic Locking Systems (20%)

- Wiring
- Locking and operating devices/software
- Controls, surveillance, and accessories

4. Mechanical Locking Systems (20%)

- Lock cylinders
- Key generation
- Lock bypass
- Master key systems

5. Safes, Vaults, Security Containers, and Video Systems (7%)

- Safe installation and repair
- Vaults and other security containers
- Safe deposit locks
- Drilling/penetrating safes
- Installing and repairing video systems

6. Safety (11%)

- Personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Power tools and equipment
- Work in elevated areas

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. Where are automatic flush bolts used?
 - a. In double-bypass doors
 - b. In single doors
 - c. In inactive doors*
 - d. In double-acting doors

2. Which pair of hardware finishes are the same?
 - a. 605 and US5
 - b. 606 and US3
 - c. 613 and US10B*
 - d. 626 and US26

3. When selecting a power supply for a job using four 0.75-amp electromagnetic locks, which is the BEST power supply?
 - a. 0.75 amp
 - b. 1.5 amps
 - c. 2.0 amps
 - d. 4.0 amps*

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

Door and Hardware Institute handbooks:

- *Basic Architectural Hardware*
- *Keying Systems and Nomenclature*
- *Glossary of Architectural Hardware Terms*
- *Lock Function Chart*
- *Installation Guide for Doors and Hardware*

PHONE: (202) 367-1134
INTERNET: www.dhi.org

The Complete Book of Locks and Locksmithing. Bill Phillips. McGraw-Hill Professional.
PHONE: (877) 833-5524
INTERNET: www.mhprofessional.com

NFPA 80: Standard for Fire Doors and Other Opening Protectives. National Fire Protection Association.
PHONE: (800) 344-3555
INTERNET: www.nfpa.org

NFPA 101: Life Safety Code. National Fire Protection Association.
PHONE: (800) 344-3555
INTERNET: www.nfpa.org

State of California General Industry & Electrical Safety Orders (Cal/OSHA) and State of California Construction & Electrical Safety Orders (Cal/OSHA). 2023. California Code of Regulations, Title 8. Mancomm.
PHONE: (877) 626-2666
INTERNET: www.mancomm.com
VIEW ONLINE:
www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/LawsAndRegulations.htm

Ugly's Electrical References. Jones & Bartlett Learning.
PHONE: (800) 832-0034
INTERNET: www.uglys.net

Publisher information is current as of 3/26