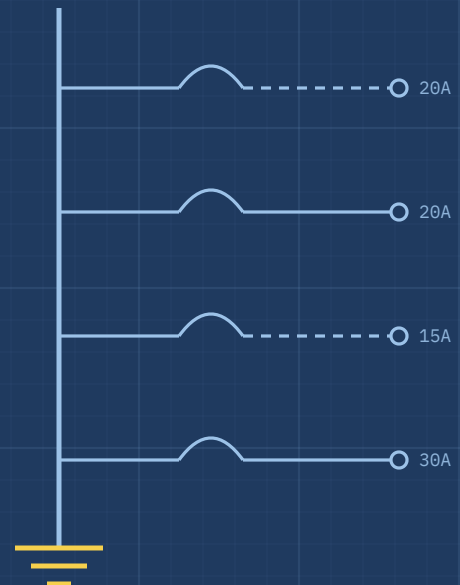


WALK INTO THE JOURNEYMAN EXAM **READY.**

Practice questions that teach you to find the answer in the code book, and show you why the tempting wrong answers are wrong.

PANEL A 120/240 V 1Ø 3W



YOUR NAME HERE
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12 MODULES

every major exam topic

THE WHY

every wrong option explained

CODE-CITED

each answer tied to its section

TRACKER

get each one right three times

TWELVE MODULES. ONE METHOD.

The full guide follows the way the exam is built: timed, usually open book, and full of answers that look right. Every explanation tells you where to look. Built on the 2023 NEC, with other editions on request.

01 General requirements Art. 90, 100, 110

03 Overcurrent protection Art. 240

05 Grounding and bonding Art. 250

07 Wiring methods and raceways Ch. 3, Ch. 9

09 Motors and HVAC Art. 430, 440

11 Special equipment and occupancies Ch. 5 to 7

02 Branch circuits and feeders Art. 210, 215

04 Conductors and identification Art. 200, 310

06 Boxes and enclosures Art. 312, 314

08 Services Art. 230

10 Calculations Art. 220, Ch. 9

12 Timed mock exams All articles

Highlighted modules have questions in this sample.

1

ANSWER COLD

Work the question with the code book, not the answer key. Mark how sure you are.

2

READ THE WHY

Every explanation covers the right answer and each wrong one, plus the code path.

3

TRACK IT

Log each question. It counts as learned after three correct tries on different days.

4

MIX IT UP

Mixed review sets and timed mock exams force you to pick the method, like the real test.

HOW TO READ A QUESTION

BOX FILL topic

■■■ difficulty, in words too

E-06-003 question ID, module 06

NEC
314.16(B)

where the answer lives

EXAM TRAP the miss that costs points

☐ Sure / Unsure / Guess

WORK THESE WITH THE CODE BOOK OPEN.

01

E-01-004

WORKING SPACE

■ ■ ■ Foundation

Recall

A 120/240 V panelboard has exposed live parts on one side of the working space and no live or grounded parts on the other side. What is the minimum depth of working space in front of it?

- ☐ (A) 2 ft
 ☐ (B) 3 ft
 ☐ (C) 3 1/2 ft
 ☐ (D) 4 ft

☐ SURE
 ☐ UNSURE
 ☐ GUESS

02

E-01-007

WORKING SPACE

■ ■ ■ Foundation

Recall

Unless an exception applies, what is the minimum headroom required in the working space at a service panel?

- ☐ (A) 5 1/2 ft
 ☐ (B) 6 ft
 ☐ (C) 6 ft 3 in.
 ☐ (D) 6 1/2 ft

☐ SURE
 ☐ UNSURE
 ☐ GUESS

03

E-03-012

OVERCURRENT PROTECTION

■ ■ ■ Exam-level

Recall

What is the largest overcurrent device allowed on a 12 AWG copper THHN branch circuit, with no special-application exceptions in play?

- ☐ (A) 20 A
 ☐ (B) 25 A
 ☐ (C) 30 A
 ☐ (D) 35 A

☐ SURE
 ☐ UNSURE
 ☐ GUESS

04

E-02-018

CONTINUOUS LOADS

■ ■ ■ Exam-level

Calculation

A 20 A branch circuit is protected by a standard breaker that is not listed for 100 percent of its rating. What is the maximum continuous load it can carry?

- ☐ (A) 12 A
 ☐ (B) 15 A
 ☐ (C) 16 A
 ☐ (D) 20 A

☐ SURE
 ☐ UNSURE
 ☐ GUESS

05

E-06-003

BOX FILL

■ ■ ■ Exam-level

Calculation

Two 12/2 cables with ground enter a device box through external clamps. The box holds one duplex receptacle and the two equipment grounding conductors. What minimum box volume is required?

- ☐ (A) 13.50 cu in
 ☐ (B) 15.75 cu in
 ☐ (C) 18.00 cu in
 ☐ (D) 20.25 cu in

☐ SURE
 ☐ UNSURE
 ☐ GUESS

FIVE MORE.

06

E-10-002

CALCULATIONS

■ ■ ■ Foundation
Calculation

A 1,800 W resistive heater is connected to 120 V. How much current does it draw?

- ☐ (A) 10 A
 ☐ (B) 12.5 A
☐ (C) 13.5 A
 ☐ (D) 15 A
- ☐ SURE
 ☐ UNSURE
 ☐ GUESS

07

E-02-031

DWELLING RECEPTACLES

■ ■ ■ Foundation
Recall

Along a dwelling kitchen countertop wall, no point may be more than what distance, measured horizontally, from a receptacle outlet?

- ☐ (A) 12 in.
 ☐ (B) 18 in.
☐ (C) 24 in.
 ☐ (D) 36 in.
- ☐ SURE
 ☐ UNSURE
 ☐ GUESS

08

E-02-029

DWELLING RECEPTACLES

■ ■ ■ Foundation
Recall

In a dwelling living room, receptacles along the general wall space must be placed so that no point along the floor line is more than how far from a receptacle?

- ☐ (A) 6 ft
 ☐ (B) 8 ft
☐ (C) 10 ft
 ☐ (D) 12 ft
- ☐ SURE
 ☐ UNSURE
 ☐ GUESS

09

E-02-034

BRANCH CIRCUITS

■ ■ ■ Foundation
Recall

What is the minimum number of 20 A small-appliance branch circuits required for the kitchen countertop receptacles in a dwelling?

- ☐ (A) 1
 ☐ (B) 2
☐ (C) 3
 ☐ (D) 4
- ☐ SURE
 ☐ UNSURE
 ☐ GUESS

10

E-04-001

CONDUCTOR IDENTIFICATION

■ ■ ■ Foundation
Recall

How must an insulated grounded conductor of 6 AWG or smaller be identified?

- ☐ (A) Green insulation
☐ (B) Black or red insulation
☐ (C) White or gray insulation, or three white or gray stripes on other than green
☐ (D) Any color, re-identified with white tape at each termination
- ☐ SURE
 ☐ UNSURE
 ☐ GUESS

WHY THE RIGHT ANSWER IS RIGHT.

01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10
B	D	A	C	B	D	C	A	B	C

B 3 FT

01 / E-01-004

WORKING SPACE

The voltage to ground is 120 V, which falls in the 0 to 150 V row of Table 110.26(A)(1). Live parts on one side and nothing on the other is Condition 1, and Condition 1 is 3 ft at every voltage in that row. 3 1/2 ft and 4 ft are Condition 2 and 3 values for higher voltages, which is why they look familiar.

- A 2 ft: No row of Table 110.26(A)(1) goes below 3 ft.
- C 3 1/2 ft: Condition 2, but only at 151 to 600 V.
- D 4 ft: Condition 3, but only at 151 to 600 V.

NEC 110.26(A)(1), Table 110.26(A)(1) Look it up: Index: Working space → 110.26(A)(1)

D 6 1/2 FT

02 / E-01-007

WORKING SPACE

Working space must be clear from the floor to 6 1/2 ft, or to the height of the equipment if it is taller. The exceptions cover service equipment and panelboards rated 200 A or less in existing dwelling units, so a new install gets the full 6 1/2 ft.

- A 5 1/2 ft: Not a value the rule uses.
- B 6 ft: Close, and the most common miss. The rule is 6 1/2 ft.
- C 6 ft 3 in.: Not a value the rule uses.

NEC 110.26(A)(3) Look it up: Index: Working space, headroom → 110.26(A)(3)

A 20 A

03 / E-03-012

OVERCURRENT PROTECTION

Table 310.16 lists 12 AWG copper at 30 A in the 90°C column. The small-conductor rule caps overcurrent protection for 12 AWG copper at 20 A regardless of the table ampacity. The 90°C rating is useful for derating, not for sizing the breaker.

- B 25 A: 12 AWG copper in the 75°C column.
- C 30 A: The 90°C column. Used for derating, not breaker size.
- D 35 A: 10 AWG copper at 75°C. Wrong wire.

EXAM TRAP THE TABLE SAYS 30 A. THE BREAKER CAN'T.

Expect at least one question built on this. When the stem says overcurrent device or breaker, check 240.4(D) before you trust Table 310.16.

NEC 240.4(D)(5), Table 310.16 Look it up: Index: Small conductors → 240.4(D)

FROM THE FIELD

Your note here: one sentence in your own voice on the mistake you see apprentices make most on this topic. Every module carries one.

SHOW THE WORK.

C 16 A

04 / E-02-018

CONTINUOUS LOADS

The overcurrent device has to be at least the noncontinuous load plus 125 percent of the continuous load. Working backward, 20 A divided by 1.25 is 16 A. A continuous load runs 3 hours or more at a time.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{OCPD} &\geq 125\% \times \text{continuous load} \\ 20 \text{ A} \div 1.25 &= 16 \text{ A} \end{aligned}$$

- A 12 A: 80% of a 15 A circuit, not a 20 A one.
- B 15 A: No basis in the rule.
- D 20 A: Only with an OCPD listed for 100% of its rating.

NEC 210.20(A); Article 100, continuous load

Look it up: Index: Continuous loads → 210.20(A)

B 15.75 in³

05 / E-06-003

BOX FILL

Count volume allowances. The four insulated conductors count as 4. The receptacle's yoke counts as 2. The equipment grounding conductors count as 1 together, since four or fewer count as a single allowance. That is 7 allowances at 2.25 cu in each for 12 AWG, or 15.75 cu in. External clamps add nothing; internal clamps would add 1 more.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Insulated conductors} & 4 \times 1 = 4 \\ \text{Device (yoke)} & 1 \times 2 = 2 \\ \text{EGCs (two count once)} & = 1 \\ \text{External clamps} & = 0 \\ \text{7 allowances} \times 2.25 \text{ cu in} &= 15.75 \text{ cu in} \end{aligned}$$

- A 13.50 cu in: 6 allowances. Forgot the equipment grounding conductors.
- C 18.00 cu in: 8 allowances. Counted each EGC separately.
- D 20.25 cu in: 9 allowances. Counted EGCs separately and added a clamp.

NEC 314.16(B)(1), (B)(4), (B)(5); Table 314.16(B)

Look it up: Index: Boxes, fill calculations → 314.16(B)

D 15 A

06 / E-10-002

CALCULATIONS

Current equals power divided by voltage: 1,800 W divided by 120 V is 15 A. If the heater runs as a continuous load, a 15 A circuit is too small, because 15 A times 1.25 is 18.75 A. Exams like to pair the Ohm's law step with the continuous-load step.

$$\begin{aligned} I &= P \div E \\ I &= 1,800 \text{ W} \div 120 \text{ V} = 15 \text{ A} \\ \text{Continuous: } 15 \text{ A} \times 1.25 &= 18.75 \text{ A} \end{aligned}$$

- A 10 A: Would mean a 180 V supply.
- B 12.5 A: Would mean a 144 V supply.
- C 13.5 A: Would mean about a 133 V supply.

NEC Ohm's law; 210.20(A) Look it up: Ohm's law and power wheel; 210.20(A)

AND WHY THE TRAPS CATCH PEOPLE.

C 24 IN.

07 / E-02-031

DWELLING
RECEPTACLES

Countertop receptacles are spaced so no point along the wall line is more than 24 in. from one, which works out to one every 4 ft. Any countertop space 12 in. or wider needs a receptacle. Don't mix this up with the 6 ft rule for general wall space.

- A 12 in.: 12 in. is the narrowest counter space that needs a receptacle.
- B 18 in.: Not a value the rule uses.
- D 36 in.: Not a value the rule uses.

NEC 210.52(C)(1) Look it up: Index: Receptacles, countertops → 210.52(C)(1)

A 6 FT

08 / E-02-029

DWELLING
RECEPTACLES

The 6 ft rule means someone can plug in a lamp with a 6 ft cord anywhere along the wall. In practice that puts a receptacle at least every 12 ft.

- B 8 ft: No basis in the rule.
- C 10 ft: No basis in the rule.
- D 12 ft: The resulting spacing, not the rule.

EXAM TRAP 12 FT IS THE SPACING. 6 FT IS THE RULE.

Read the stem twice. No point more than asks for the rule, and 12 ft is the answer most people pick.

NEC 210.52(A)(1) Look it up: Index: Receptacles, dwelling → 210.52(A)(1)

B 2

09 / E-02-034

BRANCH CIRCUITS

A dwelling needs two or more 20 A small-appliance branch circuits, and the kitchen countertop receptacles have to be served by at least two of them. Kitchen loads are heavy and simultaneous, so one circuit is not allowed even in a small kitchen.

- A 1: Never enough, even in a small kitchen.
- C 3: Allowed, but more than the minimum.
- D 4: Allowed, but more than the minimum.

NEC 210.11(C)(1), 210.52(B)(1) and (B)(3)

Look it up: Index: Small-appliance branch circuits → 210.11(C)(1)

C WHITE
OR GRAY

10 / E-04-001

CONDUCTOR
IDENTIFICATION

Grounded conductors 6 AWG and smaller have to be identified along their entire length by white or gray insulation, or by three continuous white or gray stripes on insulation that is not green. Re-identifying a single conductor with tape at its terminations is reserved for conductors larger than 6 AWG; multiconductor cable has its own provision in 200.6(E). Green belongs to equipment grounding.

- A Green insulation: Reserved for equipment grounding.
- B Black or red insulation: Ungrounded (hot) conductors.
- D Any color, re-identified with white tape at each termination: Tape at terminations is for single conductors larger than 6 AWG.

NEC 200.6(A), 200.6(B) Look it up: Index: Grounded conductors, identification → 200.6

LEARNED MEANS RIGHT THREE TIMES.

Getting a question right once mostly proves you remember the page. Day 1 is your first pass; your tries on days 3, 8 and 15 are the three that count. Misses go on the miss map, and the dark rows become next week's study list.

ID	TOPIC	TRY 1	TRY 2	TRY 3
E-01-004	Working space	☐ _____	☐ _____	☐ _____
E-01-007	Working space	☐ _____	☐ _____	☐ _____
E-03-012	Overcurrent protection	☐ _____	☐ _____	☐ _____
E-02-018	Continuous loads	☐ _____	☐ _____	☐ _____
E-06-003	Box fill	☐ _____	☐ _____	☐ _____
E-10-002	Calculations	☐ _____	☐ _____	☐ _____
E-02-031	Dwelling receptacles	☐ _____	☐ _____	☐ _____
E-02-029	Dwelling receptacles	☐ _____	☐ _____	☐ _____
E-02-034	Branch circuits	☐ _____	☐ _____	☐ _____
E-04-001	Conductor identification	☐ _____	☐ _____	☐ _____

MISS MAP

Shade one box for each miss in a practice set.

	SET 1	SET 2	SET 3	SET 4	SET 5
01 General requirements	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
02 Branch circuits	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
03 Overcurrent	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
04 Conductors	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
06 Boxes	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
10 Calculations	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

REVIEW RHYTHM

Come back to each module on a schedule like this.

Day 1 Work the set cold	Day 3 Try 1: redo the set
Day 8 Try 2: mixed review	Day 15 Try 3: timed set

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