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35	A	B	C	D	E
36	A	B	C	D	E
37	A	B	C	D	E
38	A	B	C	D	E
39	A	B	C	D	E

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

ALABAMA CONSTRUCTION

G953M5VJ

AL Metal Stud and Drywall Contractor

EDITION

Demo

QUESTIONS

9

ISSUED

September 3, 2026

Before you begin

What this is

9 practice questions for ALABAMA CONSTRUCTION **G953M5VJ**, each with its answer key and an explanation. Answer a question before you read its key — the explanation is worth more once you have committed.

If something looks wrong

Send us three things and we will check it:

- the exam code, **G953M5VJ**
- the question number
- the email address on your order

Write to **support@mometrix.net**. We reply within one business day.

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QUESTION 1

SINGLE CHOICE

Which minimum steel thickness (gauge) is typically required for non-load-bearing interior metal stud framing in standard commercial drywall partitions?

- ☐ A 25 gauge (0.0209 in.)
- ☐ B 22 gauge (0.0296 in.)
- ☒ C 20 gauge (0.0329 in.)
- ☐ D 16 gauge (0.0538 in.)

ANSWER C

WHY Non-load-bearing interior metal studs for typical commercial drywall partitions are commonly formed from minimum 20 gauge (0.0329 in.) steel per industry standards (e.g., SSMA and ASTM C645 for non-structural studs). 25 gauge is too light for standard commercial framing, 22 gauge is sometimes used for lighter residential work, and 16 gauge is far heavier than required for non-load-bearing partitions and is more typical of structural studs.

QUESTION 2

SINGLE CHOICE

When constructing a 1-hour fire-rated metal stud partition, what is the MOST important reason for using Type X gypsum board rather than regular gypsum board of the same thickness?

- ☐ A Type X board is cheaper and easier to finish.
- ☒ B Type X board contains special cores that resist heat transfer and maintain integrity longer under fire exposure.
- ☐ C Type X board has higher moisture resistance for use in fire-rated assemblies.
- ☐ D Type X board has a smoother paper face for paint adhesion.

ANSWER B

WHY Type X gypsum board is manufactured with a core containing additives (such as glass fibers and other materials) that significantly slow the passage of heat and maintain the integrity of the assembly longer when exposed to fire. This allows listed 1-hour and 2-hour wall assemblies to achieve their rated fire-resistance performance. The other options describe properties unrelated to the fire rating.

QUESTION 3

SINGLE CHOICE

According to standard drywall installation practice, what is the recommended maximum spacing for screws when fastening gypsum board to metal studs on walls?

- ☐ A 8 inches on center
- ☒ B 12 inches on center
- ☐ C 16 inches on center
- ☐ D 24 inches on center

ANSWER B

WHY Industry standard practice (per GA-216 and most manufacturer specifications, as well as ASTM C840) calls for screws to be spaced a maximum of 12 inches on center along the framing for wall applications. Field screws on ceilings are typically spaced 12 inches on center as well, with perimeter spacing at 8 inches on center. 16 or 24 inches on center is too wide for screws per accepted drywall installation standards.

QUESTION 4

SINGLE CHOICE

For typical interior non-load-bearing metal stud partitions faced with 1/2-inch gypsum board, what is the most common on-center spacing of studs?

- ☐ A 12 inches on center
- ☐ B 16 inches on center
- ☒ C 24 inches on center
- ☐ D 48 inches on center

ANSWER C

WHY When 1/2-inch gypsum board is used on interior non-load-bearing partitions, studs are most commonly spaced 24 inches on center. This matches the typical 4-foot-wide gypsum board dimensions and provides adequate backing for board edges while reducing material cost. 16 inches on center is more typical for heavier board or load-bearing conditions, and 48 inches on center would not provide support for board edges.

QUESTION 5

SINGLE CHOICE

Per OSHA construction standards, at what minimum height above a lower level must conventional fall protection (guardrails, safety nets, or personal fall arrest systems) be provided for workers on a walking/working surface?

- ☐ A 4 feet
- ☒ B 6 feet
- ☐ C 8 feet
- ☐ D 10 feet

ANSWER B

WHY Under OSHA 29 CFR 1926.501(b)(2), employers must provide fall protection for workers on a walking/working surface with an unprotected side or edge that is 6 feet or more above a lower level. While some specific tasks (like residential construction on scaffolds) have other thresholds, the general rule for unprotected edges is 6 feet. 4 feet is too low, and 8 or 10 feet are not the regulatory threshold.

QUESTION 6

SINGLE CHOICE

What is the primary purpose of 'kwik-coupler' or screw-attached splice connections between two metal stud track sections?

- ☐ A To provide a structural moment connection rated for seismic loads.
- ☒ B To extend or join track sections together with adequate strength and alignment for stud installation.
- ☐ C To act as a substitute for solid blocking at openings.
- ☐ D To serve as a fire-stop within the track.

ANSWER B

WHY Splice connectors such as kwik-couplers are used to join two pieces of track together so that they act as one continuous track for the purpose of supporting studs. They provide adequate strength for typical non-structural partition framing but are not designed as moment connections for seismic bracing. They are not a substitute for solid headers/blocking at openings, nor do they serve as fire-stops.

QUESTION 7

SINGLE CHOICE

On a set of architectural drawings, a typical wall type designation such as '2x4 metal stud wall @ 16" o.c.' would MOST likely appear in which sheet or section of the contract documents?

- ☐ A The structural foundation plan
- ☒ B The wall types/sections sheet or partition schedule on the architectural drawings
- ☐ C The plumbing riser diagram
- ☐ D The electrical load calculation sheet

ANSWER B

WHY Wall type designations, stud sizes, spacing, and finish schedules are typically shown on the architectural drawings in a wall types/sections sheet or partition schedule. The structural foundation plan addresses footings and foundations, the plumbing riser diagram shows DWV piping, and the electrical load calculation sheet is part of the electrical drawings. A metal stud contractor must therefore rely primarily on the architectural drawings for wall assembly details.

QUESTION 8

MULTIPLE CHOICE

When framing a metal stud partition, which of the following are recommended best practices for layout and installation? (Choose two.)

- ☒ **A Anchor the top and bottom track securely to the structure using appropriate fasteners.**
- ☒ **B Plumb and align the first stud, then tie the layout string to subsequent studs to maintain alignment.**
- ☐ C Omit slip/expansion connections at the top track on all partitions regardless of length.
- ☐ D Fasten both flanges of every stud to the top and bottom track.

ANSWER A - B

WHY Two widely accepted best practices are (A) anchoring the top and bottom track to the floor, ceiling, and walls using appropriate fasteners (e.g., powder-actuated fasteners to steel or concrete, screws to wood), and (B) plumbing the first stud carefully, then using a string line or laser to keep all subsequent studs in plane and aligned. Slips at the top track are often required for long partitions or tall partitions, so omitting them entirely is not recommended. Fastening both flanges of every stud to the track is generally NOT done; typically only the flanges are engaged by friction fit and one side is screwed at openings, and over-fastening can transmit floor deflection loads into the studs.

QUESTION 9

MULTIPLE CHOICE

Which of the following items are typically specified to achieve the published Sound Transmission Class (STC) rating of a metal stud and gypsum board partition? (Choose two.)

- ☒ **A Stud size, spacing, and gauge of the metal framing members.**
- ☒ **B Number, thickness, and type of gypsum board layers on each side.**
- ☐ C Type of conduit used for electrical wiring.
- ☐ D Manufacturer and brand of joint compound used for finishing.

ANSWER A - B

WHY STC ratings published in listings and the GA-600 Fire Resistance Design Manual / sound-rated assemblies are based primarily on the framing configuration (stud size, gauge, spacing) and the gypsum board layers (number, thickness, and type such as Type X or Type C). The brand of joint compound and the conduit type do not meaningfully affect the listed STC value of a wall assembly.