GENERAL

mike holt electrical exam prep 2017

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Introduction

Preparing for a professional electrical exam can feel like standing at the base of a towering cliff, looking up at a summit that seems impossibly distant. Whether you're a seasoned electrician or a fresh apprentice, the path to certification is paved with complex concepts, rigorous standards, and a relentless drive for precision. Among the many resources that aspiring candidates turn to, **Mike Holt Electrical Exam Prep 2017**has earned a reputation as a trusted guide that helps candidates navigate the maze of theory and practice with confidence.

In this comprehensive guide, we'll explore what makes the 2017 edition of Mike Holt's exam prep book a standout choice, how it aligns with the current exam landscape, and practical strategies for maximizing its benefits. By the end, you'll have a clear roadmap for turning study time into exam success.

What Is Mike Holt Electrical Exam Prep 2017?

Mike Holt's *Electrical Exam Prep*series has been a staple in the electrical training community for decades. The 2017 edition, tailored specifically for the National Electrical Code (NEC) exam and other licensing tests, offers a comprehensive review of the 2017 NEC edition, along with updated safety protocols, emerging technologies, and real-world scenario questions.

Key features of the 2017 edition include:

- Updated Code Reference: A side by side comparison of the 2017 NEC with earlier versions.
- Practice Questions: Over 1,000 multiple choice questions with detailed explanations.
- Study Aids: Flashcards, summary sheets, and a mobile app for on the go review.
- Exam Strategy Guide: Time management techniques and test taking tips.
- Real World Scenarios: Practical case studies that mirror on site challenges.

Why Study for Electrical Exams?

Electrical licensing exams are more than a bureaucratic hurdle—they're a validation of competence, safety, and professionalism. Here's why a solid prep strategy matters:

1. Safety First: Proper knowledge reduces the risk of electrical hazards, protecting both workers and the public.
2. Career Advancement: Certified electricians command higher wages, broader job opportunities, and leadership roles.
3. Legal Compliance: Many jurisdictions require proof of certification for certain types of work.
4. Confidence Building: Mastery of the NEC and related standards fosters confidence in field decisions.

Key Topics Covered in the 2017 Edition

Understanding the scope of the exam is the first step toward effective preparation. Mike Holt's book aligns with the 2017 NEC's structure, covering the following core sections:

1. Introduction to the NEC

History, purpose, and the process for code updates.

2. General Requirements

Definitions, scope, and applicability.

3. Wiring and Protection

Conductors, cables, and overcurrent protection.

4. Equipment

Switches, receptacles, lighting, and specialty equipment.

5. Special Occupancies

Hospitals, schools, industrial facilities, and other high risk environments.

6. Special Conditions

Outdoor installations, hazardous locations, and high voltage systems.

7. Installation Practices

Proper installation methods, grounding, bonding, and labeling.

8. Emerging Technologies

Solar photovoltaics, electric vehicle charging stations, and smart grid components.

Study Strategies for the 2017 Edition

Having the right material is only half the battle. Here are proven tactics to maximize learning:

1. Create a Structured Study Plan

Allocate specific time blocks for each NEC chapter. Use a calendar to track progress and set realistic milestones.

2. Active Recall with Flashcards

Mike Holt's flashcard set covers key terms and code references. Test yourself daily to reinforce retention.

3. Practice Under Realistic Conditions

Simulate exam conditions by timing yourself on the 1,000 practice questions. This helps build stamina and identify pacing issues.

4. Review Explanations Thoroughly

Don't just skip to the next question. Understanding why an answer is correct or incorrect solidifies your grasp of the code.

5. Join Study Groups

Discuss challenging scenarios with peers. Teaching others is a powerful method to deepen your own knowledge.

6. Leverage the Mobile App

Use the companion app for on the go quizzes, quick reference, and progress tracking.

How to Use Mike Holt Electrical Exam Prep 2017 Effectively

Below is a step by step approach that blends the book's resources with proven study practices.

1. Initial Read Through: Skim the entire book to get a sense of its structure. Note any sections that seem

particularly dense.

2. Set Objectives: Define what you want to achieve each week—e.g., complete Chapters 1 3 and finish 200 practice questions.

3. Daily Focus: Spend 60–90 minutes on a single chapter, alternating between reading, note taking, and answering questions.

4. Weekly Review: At the end of each week, revisit all flashcards and summary sheets. Identify weak areas for targeted study.

5. Full Mock Exams: Once a month, take a full-length mock exam under timed conditions to gauge readiness.

6. Adjust Based on Results: Use performance data to refine your study plan, focusing more on low scoring sections.

Sample Questions and Explanations

Here are three sample questions from the 2017 edition, followed by detailed explanations that illustrate the reasoning behind each correct answer.

Question 1

Which of the following is the correct method for grounding a metal conduit in a damp location?

- A) Attach a grounding wire to the conduit's ground terminal.
- B) Use a grounding screw on the conduit.
- C) Apply a bonding jumpers between the conduit and the metal box.
- D) Install a ground rod at the site and connect it to the conduit.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: In damp locations, the NEC requires that metal conduit be grounded using a grounding screw or clamp that is rated for the conduit type. Option B reflects this requirement. Options A and C are incorrect because the conduit itself does not have a ground terminal or bonding jumpers. Option D is unnecessary unless the conduit is not directly grounded to the system.

Question 2

According to the 2017 NEC, what is the maximum permissible distance between a receptacle and a work area in a kitchen?

- A) 4 feet
- B) 6 feet
- C) 8 feet
- D) 10 feet

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: Section 210.52(A)(2) of the 2017 NEC mandates that receptacles in kitchen work areas must be installed within 8 feet of the countertop. This ensures accessibility while maintaining safety. The other distances are either too close or exceed the code's specification.

Question 3

Which type of circuit breaker is required for a 120-volt, 20-ampere circuit supplying a single non metallic sheathed cable?

- A) GFCI breaker

- B) AFCI breaker
- C) Standard thermal magnetic breaker
- D) Surge protection breaker

Correct Answer: A

Explanation: The NEC requires GFCI protection for 120 volt circuits in areas such as bathrooms, kitchens, and garages where the receptacle is exposed to water. While AFCI protection is also mandated in many residential settings, the question specifically asks for the breaker type that addresses ground fault protection, making GFCI the correct answer.

Additional Resources to Complement the 2017 Edition

While Mike Holt's book is a robust foundation, supplementing your study with diverse materials can enhance understanding.

- NEC Official Publication: Keep a copy of the 2017 NEC handy for reference.
- Online Courses: Platforms like Electrical Training Academy offer video lessons that align with the 2017 code.
- Forums & Communities: Sites such as Electrical Contractor Forum allow you to ask questions and share insights.
- Practice Exam Apps: Apps like ExamPrep Pro provide additional question banks.
- Local Trade Schools: Many offer review workshops and mock exams.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. Is the 2017 edition still relevant for the latest NEC code?

Yes. Although the NEC updates annually, the 2017 edition covers the core principles that remain unchanged, and many exam boards still use it as a reference. However, be sure to check your jurisdiction's current code version before the exam.

2. How long should I study before attempting the exam?

Most candidates recommend 8–12 weeks of consistent study. Adjust this timeline based on your familiarity with the material and the amount of time you can dedicate each day.

3. Can I use the book for both the NEC exam and the Journeyman Electrical Exam?

Absolutely. The book's comprehensive coverage of code, safety, and practical scenarios applies to both exams.

4. What's the best way to handle tricky code references?

Use the book's side by side code comparison feature. Highlight the relevant section, and then cross reference it in your notes.

Conclusion

Preparing for a professional electrical exam is a rigorous yet rewarding endeavor. By leveraging the **Mike Holt Electrical Exam Prep 2017**as a central resource, you gain a clear, code aligned roadmap that demystifies complex concepts and equips you with the confidence needed to excel on exam day. Pair the book's structured content with active recall, timed practice, and continuous review, and you'll find yourself not only passing the exam but also mastering the practical skills that make you a safer, more competent electrician.

Remember, the journey to certification is a marathon, not a sprint. Stay disciplined, stay curious, and let the 2017

edition guide you to the pinnacle of electrical expertise.

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