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MECP Basic Certification Exam Contents

All MECP exams require a passing score of 70% or greater IN EACH SECTION of the exam to successfully pass the whole exam. One failed section will result in a failed exam. All MECP exams have a time limit of three hours.

BASIC INSTALLATION TECHNICIAN CERTIFICATION – No Experience Prerequisite

The Basic Installation Technician certification exam contains 150 multiple choice questions and is divided into five sections. This exam is intended for entry level technicians with little to no professional experience. Use the MECP Basic Installation Technician study guide and online practice exam at MECP.com as study resources for this exam.

Basic Electronics and Automotive Electrical Section (40 Questions)

- 1) Ohm's Law** (25% of Section 1) – These questions require basic knowledge and understanding of Ohm's Law, the related components (voltage, current, resistance, power, series, parallel, etc.) as applied in a circuit and the math involved to solve specific problems. Since calculators are not allowed on the MECP Basic Installation Technician Exam, the actual math is considered to be at a basic grade school level.
- 2) Electronic Components** (52% of Section 1) – These questions deal with physical electronics components, such as resistors, capacitors, relays, diodes, batteries, power wire, fuses, etc. as well as how or where they apply. The section also covers related units of measure, such as Ohms, Farads, and Henries.
- 3) Automotive Electrical System Components and Applications** (23% of Section 1) – This section tests on the components and application of the automotive electrical system itself – what the parts do and why they are there as well as how aftermarket installations must consider various aspects of an automotive electrical system.

Entry Level Installation Technique & Shop Safety Section (40 Questions)

- 4) Components Applications and Usage** (20% of Section 2) – These questions pertain to the way that a component or installation accessory is applied or used in an installation. Also includes wiring diagrams, symbols, and terminology related to installation. Many MECP best practices for general installation are contained in this section.
- 5) Troubleshooting, Measurements, and Analysis + DMM use.** (62% of Section 2) – This section covers the identification and diagnosis of common installation errors and components that don't operate properly. This section also includes the use of tools that aid in diagnosis, most notably the Digital Multimeter (DMM).
- 6) Power and Hand Tools** (9% of Section 2) – These questions pertain to tools that are not considered to be measurement and troubleshooting tools.

7) Safety Issues (9% of Section 2) – This section includes questions directly related to shop safety and proper use of safety equipment.

Introduction to Mobile Audio/Video Systems Section (30 Questions)

8) Basic Audio Theory and Analysis (26% of Section 3) – These questions deal with basic acoustic and electrical theory as it relates to audio entertainment in the mobile environment. Some questions involve basic mathematical computation.

9) Components (31% of Section 3) – These questions include all that pertain to the equipment found in a mobile audio installation such as subwoofers, speakers, amplifiers, crossovers and OEM interface devices.

10) Installation Practices (43% of Section 3) – This section covers questions directly related to the installation of a mobile audio system including placement, connection, and configuration. The installation questions follow MECP recommended practices.

Introduction to Security and Convenience Systems Section (25 Questions)

11) Components (42% of Section 4) – These questions directly related to the components of mobile security and convenience products, such as sensors, sirens, switches, control units, and other primary components.

12) Installation and Troubleshooting Practices (58% of Section 4) – This section covers questions directly related to the installation of mobile security and convenience products and follows MECP recommended practices as well as common troubleshooting issues presented in the guide.

Introduction to In-Vehicle Information and Safety Systems Section (15 Questions)

13) Location, Safety and Navigation Components (20% of Section 5) – These questions include all that pertain to the equipment found in a navigation or safety system installation, including GPS based route guidance and reverse cameras/sensors.

14) Communication Components (40% of Section 5) – These questions include all that pertain to wireless communications equipment found in a mobile installation, including Bluetooth, satellite radio and HD Radio.

15) Installation Practices (40% of Section 5) – This section covers questions directly related to the installation of in-vehicle information and communication systems, such as antenna placement and wired connections, and follows MECP recommended practices.

Requirements for MECP Basic Installation Technician Certification

There are no prerequisites for taking the MECP Basic level certification exam. It's intended for entry level individuals with limited work experience. It's an "apprentice level" credential.



Study resources for the MECP Basic Installation technician exam are:

- [MECP Basic Installation Technician study guide, Third Edition](#)
- [MECP Basic Installation Technician practice exam](#)

The MECP Basic Installation Technician certification is valid for two years, at which time the individual must recertify to maintain MECP Basic Installation Technician status. Alternatively, the technician can move up to the MECP Advanced Installation Technician level if they have achieved the requisite professional work experience.