

# Scaffold Tool & Training Company

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

# BASIC SCAFFOLDING KNOWLEDGE QUESTIONS

Helping you get it right

Couplers  
Scaffold Belts  
Scaffold Tools  
Steel Scaffold Sales  
Scaffolding Pouches  
Aluminum Scaffold Sales  
Forklift & EWP Operation  
Scaffold Maintenance & Repairs  
Basic, Intermediate & Advanced Scaffolding Training & Assessment

# THE PROFESSIONALS IN SCAFFOLD TRAINING

## Basic Scaffolding - Questions

### SECTION ONE: CERTIFICATION

1. a) At what height is a scaffolding certificate of competency needed?

***Where a person or object could fall more than 4m from the scaffolding.***

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1. b) Is a person with a Basic Scaffolding Certificate allowed to construct a cantilevered scaffold?

***No***

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1. c) Is a person with a Basic Scaffolding Certificate allowed to construct a barrow ramp?

***No***

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1. d) Is a person with a Basic Scaffolding Certificate allowed to construct a tower frame scaffold with outriggers?

***Yes***

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1. e) Is a person with a Basic Scaffolding Certificate allowed to construct a tube and coupler scaffold?

***No***

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1. f) Is a person with a Basic Scaffolding Certificate allowed to install a barrow hoist?

***Yes***

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1. g) Is a person with a Basic Scaffolding Certificate allowed to construct a modular birdcage scaffold?

***Yes***

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1. h) Is a person with a Basic Scaffolding Certificate allowed to construct a swing stage?

***No***

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1. i) Is a person with a Basic Scaffolding Certificate allowed to install a safety net?

***Yes***

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1. j) Is a person with a Basic Scaffolding Certificate allowed to erect a mast climber?

***No***

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1. k) Is a person with a Basic Scaffolding Certificate allowed to construct a mobile frame scaffold?

***Yes***

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1. l) Is a person with a Basic Scaffolding Certificate allowed to install a personnel and materials hoist?

**No**

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## SECTION TWO: SITE HAZARDS

2. a) How close to live unprotected powerlines would you construct a metal scaffold?

**4m (national guideline. Consult local supply authority for state regulations)**

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2. b) How far past each end of the scaffold should insulation on live powerlines extend?

**4.9m (or 5m)**

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2. c) How can a scaffold built alongside a road be protected from traffic damage?

1. **Re-route traffic**

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2. **Provide guards (or fenders)**

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3. **Use a person to direct traffic (or flagman)**

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2. d) What could happen if the tie tubes on a scaffold stuck out too far when a crane is operating?

**Crane loads could snag the scaffold**

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2. e) Name something which might corrode scaffolding equipment.

1. **Acids**

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2. **Alkalis**

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3. **Salts**

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2. f) What is the danger where a scaffold is being constructed close to machinery with moving parts?

**Injury from machinery operation**

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2. g) What type of scaffolding material would you use to construct a scaffold where there may be a danger of explosion?

**Non-conductive material (or timber)**

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## SECTION THREE: TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT FOR SCAFFOLDING

3. a) How far above the maximum nut extension must the spindle of an adjustable baseplate extend?

**150mm**

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3. b) What is the maximum extension on an adjustable baseplate?

**600mm**

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3. c) What is the minimum size of a square baseplate?

**150mm x 150mm (or 225cm<sup>2</sup>)**

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3. d) What is the minimum outside diameter of a common scaffold tube (to the nearest mm)?

**48mm**

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3. e) What is the minimum wall thickness of a common steel scaffold tube?

**4mm**

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3. f) What is the minimum wall thickness of a common heavy duty aluminium scaffold tube?

**4.45mm (or 4.4mm or 4.5mm)**

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3. g) What is the minimum width of a scaffold plank?

**220mm (or 225mm)**

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3. h) What is the minimum thickness of a hardwood solid timber scaffold plank?

**32mm**

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3. i) What is the minimum thickness of an oregon solid timber scaffold plank?

**38mm**

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3. j) What is the minimum diameter of fibre rope you would use for a handline?

**12mm**

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3. k) What is the minimum diameter of fibre rope you would use for a gin wheel?

**16mm**

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3. l) What is the maximum load you would lift with a gin wheel?

**50kg**

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3. m) Would you use a gin wheel with no rope guides?

**No**

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3. n) How far along an unbraced cantilevered scaffold tube would you fix a gin wheel?

**600mm**

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3. o) How would you stop a ring-type gin wheel from sliding along the scaffold tube?

***Fix a coupler on either side of the ring***

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3. p) Would you suspend a gin wheel from a right angle coupler?

***No***

---

3. q) What would you do to make safe a hook-type gin wheel with no safety catch?

***Mouse the hook (wire up the open hook)***

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## SECTION FOUR: GENERAL SCAFFOLD REQUIREMENTS

4. a) What is the maximum load in each bay of a light duty working platform?

***225kg (or 2.2kN)***

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4. b) What is the maximum load in each bay of a medium duty working platform?

***450kg (or 4.4kN)***

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4. c) What is the maximum load in each bay of a heavy duty working platform?

***675kg (or 6.6kN)***

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4. d) What maximum load would you place on a right angle coupler?

***630kg (or 630kgf or 6.25kN)***

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4. e) What maximum load would you place an adjustable baseplate?

***3030kg (or 30kN, or 3030kgf. 3000kg or 3 t are acceptable approximations)***

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4. f) What is the maximum allowable load on a chain?

***One sixth of the breaking load (or breaking strain or breaking force)***

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4. g) What is the maximum allowable load on a flexible steel wire rope?

***One sixth of the breaking load (or breaking strain or breaking force)***

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4. h) When a scaffold is built on soil, what would you place under the baseplates to distribute the load?

***Soleplates***

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4. i) What minimum width of timber would you use as a soleplate?

***220mm (or 225mm, or the width of a scaffold plank)***

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4. j) Are gaps allowed between the planks of a working platform?

**No**

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4. k) Can platform planks be lapped on the returns of a scaffold?

**Yes**

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4. l) What is the minimum width of a light duty working platform?

**450mm (or 2 planks)**

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4. m) What is the minimum width of a medium duty working platform?

**900mm (or 4 planks)**

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4. n) What is the minimum width of a heavy duty working platform?

**1000m (or 5 planks)**

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4. o) What is the minimum width of clear access along a working platform for persons with hand tools only?

**450mm (or 2 planks)**

---

4. p) What is the minimum width of clear access along a working platform for persons and materials?

**675mm (or 3 planks)**

---

4. q) Can planks with different thicknesses be used to deck out a working platform?

**No**

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4. r) When is edge protection needed on working platforms?

**When a person or object could fall more than 2m**

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4. s) How far above the working platform must a toeboard extend?

**150mm**

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4. t) At what height above the working platform would you fix a guardrail?

**Not less than 900mm and not more than 1100mm (or any height between these two)**

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4. u) What must be provided between the guardrail and the toeboard to complete a platform's edge protection?

**A midrail**

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4. v) What is the maximum gap allowed between an unprotected platform edge and the working face?

***Less than 225mm (or 225mm or less than the width of a scaffold plank)***

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4. w) Is it acceptable to use a personnel hoist as the only means of access to a scaffold's working platforms?

***No***

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4. x) What type of ladders cannot be used for access to a scaffold?

1. ***A domestic grade (or non-industrial grade) ladder***

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2. ***An extension ladder***

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3. ***A step ladder***

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4. y) What is the maximum height allowed between ladder landings?

***6m (or 3 lifts)***

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4. z) What is the minimum height an access ladder must extend above the landing?

***900mm (or 1m)***

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## SECTION FIVE: PARTICULAR SCAFFOLD REQUIREMENTS

5. a) Do castors for mobile scaffolds need wheel locks?

***Yes***

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5. b) Can a castor for a mobile scaffold have a pneumatic tyre?

***No***

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5. c) Why is plan bracing needed in a mobile scaffold?

***To stop the scaffold from twisting (or distorting) when it is moved***

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5. d) What is the minimum platform width when platform brackets (hop ups) are fixed between lifts?

***450mm (or 2 planks)***

---

5. e) Would you fix platform brackets (hop ups) on the inside of the scaffold or on the outside of the scaffold?

***The inside (or alongside the working face)***

---

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5. f) When platform brackets (hop ups) are fixed between lifts, where would you place the extra working platforms?

***At the lift immediately above and the lift immediately below (or one star above or one star below)***

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5. g) What maximum spacing would you use between tank brackets supporting 50 mm thickness solid timber scaffold planks?

***2m***

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5. h) What maximum spacing would you use between tank brackets supporting 63 mm thickness solid timber scaffold planks?

***2.5m***

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5. i) **What would you do to stop the movement of planks** on a crane-lifted shutter bracket scaffold?

***Positively fix (or lash, or strap, or spike) them***

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5. j) Should the design of a sheeted scaffold be checked by an engineer?

***Yes***

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5. k) Would you use hessian to sheet a scaffold?

***No***

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5. l) Does the supplier of prefabricated scaffolding need to provide written information about the system?

***Yes***

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5. m) Would you mix components of two prefabricated systems in the one scaffold without a supplier's or engineer's consent?

***No***

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5. n) What maximum horizontal tie spacing would you use on an unsheeted modular scaffold?

***3 bays (or 6 bays with plan bracing)***

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5. o) What maximum vertical tie spacing would you use on an unsheeted modular scaffold?

***4m (or 2 lifts, or 8m with ledger bracing, or 4 lifts with ledger bracing)***

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5. p) If you used plan bracing to increase the tie spacings on a prefabricated scaffold, **how would you strengthen each tie?**

***Fix check couplers (or additional couplers) to the tie tubes***

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5. q) If a tie tube was fixed to a wedge-type modular ledger, **how would you fix the ledger against uplift?**

***Fix a check coupler (or additional coupler) over the wedge on the standard***

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5. r) Where would you fix the **first lift** on a modular scaffold?

***At the standards lowest connection points (or at the base of the standards)***

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5. s) **How many unbraced panels would you allow between the longitudinally braced panels** of an unsheeted modular scaffold?

**3**

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5. t) **Where would you fix transverse braces** to a run of unsheeted modular scaffold?

***At each end (or in each lift at each end)***

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5. u) How high would you build an unsheeted free-standing steel frame scaffold?

***Three times the least base width***

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5. v) Without supplier's information or engineer's approval, how high would you build a light duty aluminium tower frame scaffold?

***9m***

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5. w) Would you fix the ladder access to a tower frame scaffold internally or externally?

***Internally (or within the framework)***

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5. x) How is the ladder opening in a tower frame scaffold's working platform usually protected?

***With a trapdoor (or hinged hatch)***

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5. y) Without supplier's information or engineer's approval, how many working platforms would you place on a light duty aluminium tower frame scaffold?

***One***

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## SECTION SIX: ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

6. a) What is the maximum mesh size of a safety net?

***100mm***

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6. b) What maximum gap would you allow between the edge of a safety net and the building or structure?

***200mm***

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6. c) What are the two maximum fall distances which you might find marked on the label of a safety net?

**1m and 6m**

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6. d) What minimum and maximum initial sag would you allow for a safety net?

**1/4 and 1/5 of the shortest side length**

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6. e) What minimum clearance would you ensure below a safety net?

**2/3 of the shortest side length or 2m, whichever is greater**

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6. f) What minimum horizontal distance should an outriggered safety net extend past the outermost working position?

**2/5 of the maximum fall height plus 2m**

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6. g) What maximum spacing would you use between ties along the border chord of a safety net?

**750mm**

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6. h) What is the minimum overrun distance between the hoist rope attachment and the head sheave on a cantilevered platform hoist?

**1.5m**

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6. i) What is the minimum and maximum horizontal clearance between the moving platform of a cantilevered hoist and any landing or floor?

**25mm and 100mm**

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6. j) What is the minimum height of a landing gate for a cantilevered platform hoist?

**1.8m**

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6. k) What maximum distance would you use between lateral braces of a cantilevered platform hoist?

**6m**

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6. l) How high would you free-stand the tower of a cantilevered platform hoist above its last tie?

**3m**

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