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Login or Create Account>Create an account or sign in to access our study materials. Sharpen your IT skills with our free CompTIA A+ practice tests. Designed specifically for the A+ certification, these questions will help you master core hardware and software concepts, challenge your knowledge, and pinpoint areas for improvement. The CompTIA A+ is an entry-level certification for IT professionals, primarily focused on computer hardware and software. It's widely recognized in the industry and serves as a foundational certification for those looking to start a career in IT support or other technical roles. CompTIA A+ focuses on essential skills in hardware, software, networking, and troubleshooting, with a recent update to exam content focusing on security. Unlike other CompTIA certifications, the A+ Core Series consists of two independent exams. You may hear them referred to as A+ 220-1101 and A+ 220-1102 or as Core 1 and Core 2. CompTIA A+ 1101 (Core 1) focuses on mobile devices, hardware, cloud computing, virtualization and networking technology. CompTIA A+ 1102 (Core 2) focuses on operating systems, software, security, and operations. Both exams are 90 minutes and contain a maximum of 90 questions each. The exams cannot be combined. The questions will be a combination of multiple choice, drag and drop, and performance-based questions (or PBQs). (PBQs) are real-world problems delivered in simulations or virtual environments. Simulation PBQs have a reset button and the option to skip the question and come back later. Virtual PBQs cannot be reset or skipped and returned to. Both exams are scored on a scale of 900, but the Core 2 exam requires a higher passing score. You can pass with a 675 or higher on Core 1, but you must score 700 or higher on Core 2. You can begin your preparation for both Core 1 and Core 2 exams with our A+ Certification practice tests above. These A+ practice tests model the format and rigor of those on the official exam and include detailed explanations as to why you get each answer right or wrong. Start your exam prep today with this excellent free study resource! In order for applicants to take the exam, they will need to pay \$246 per test. The CompTIA A+ 220-1101 and 220-1102 will include multiple-choice, drag and drop, and performance based questions. Performance based questions will be problem-solving questions that will test your ability to solve real world problems. They will be delivered as a simulation or within a virtual environment. The CompTIA A+ certification is a great certification to have in the field of IT and technical support. This certification is the industry standard and can help give your resume a boost. Securing the CompTIA A+ certification will help showcase your skills to employers, advance your career, grow your foundational knowledge, and may even satisfy some requirements of your employer. The CompTIA A+ does not require any waiting period between your first and second attempt. If you need to take it a third time, you will need to wait at least fourteen days. The fourteen-day time period applies for all attempts after your second attempt. Yes, you may take the CompTIA A+ exam online. You will be given the option to take the exam online or in-person when registering. PearsonVue manages all testing. This question is required. Please wait. Years,Months,Weeks,Days,Hours,Minutes,Seconds Year,Month,Week,Day,Hour,Minute,Second Please select minimum {0} answer(s). Please select maximum {0} answer(s). The CompTIA Security+ certification validates that you have the core skills necessary for a career in IT security or cybersecurity. For many aspiring cybersecurity professionals, earning this popular entry-level certification can be a first step toward a rewarding, in-demand career. If you're ready to start preparing for your next role in cybersecurity including in-demand AI training, consider earning credentials from a tech industry leader by enrolling to earn the Google Cybersecurity Certificate. What is CompTIA Security+?Security+ is the entry-level cybersecurity credential offered by non-profit trade association CompTIA. It's often the first certification in information security that an IT professional earns. By showing potential employers that you have the core skills required for a cybersecurity role, you may find more job opportunities as a more competitive candidate. Read more: 8 Popular Cybersecurity Certifications What does the CompTIA Security+ exam cover?The CompTIA Security+ ranks as the most popular certification for cybersecurity professionals for good reason. It focuses on hands-on, practical security skills in six major domains. Preparing yourself for the exam gives you a broad base of practical knowledge and skills you'll need to handle real-world security situations. Here's a list of the domains and topics covered on the exam:Threats, attacks, and vulnerabilities: This includes social engineering attacks, newer denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks, and vulnerabilities found in Internet of Things (IoT) and embedded devices.Architecture and design: Expect focus on enterprise, cloud, and hybrid environments.Implementation: This domain covers topics like identity and access management, cryptography, end-to-end security, and public key infrastructure (PKI).Operations and incident response: This section tests your knowledge of incident response procedures, including threat detection, security controls, risk mitigation, and digital forensics.CompTIA Security+ prerequisitesThere are no formal requirements to take the Security+ exam. However, CompTIA recommends that you have two years of experience in IT administration with a security focus. It may also be a good idea to have an up-to-date CompTIA Network+ certification first. Read more: The CompTIA Certification Path ExplainedCompTIA Security+ exam detailsEarning your Security+ certification requires passing a certification exam. Let's take a closer look at the details of this exam as of December 2023. Exam code SY0-601 Cost (US) \$392 Number of questions 90 Passing score 750 (from 900 possible) Test length 90 minutes Prerequisites None Recommended Experience CompTIA Network+ and two years of experience in IT administration and security Types of questions on the CompTIA Security+ exam You'll find two types of questions on the latest version of the Security+ exam, traditional multiple-choice questions and performance-based questions (PBQs). PBQs test your ability to solve security problems in a simulated environment; you might be asked to install and configure a firewall or set up a wireless network, for example. PBQs often appear toward the beginning of the exam. If you get stuck on a question, you can flag it for review and return to it if you have extra time at the end of the exam. All of your work will be saved. Some PBQs may offer partial credit, so it's a good idea to complete as much of the question as you can. Complete the sample PBQ on the CompTIA website before your exam so you'll have a better idea of what to expect. The latest version of the Security+ exam was launched in November 2020. This version covers five domains, including three new or updated domains from the last exam. These new domains—Implementation, Operations and Incident Response, and Governance, Risk, and Compliance—reflect the evolving industry. As you prepare for the exam, be sure your materials cover the 601 exam objectives. Is the Security+ certification worth it? Passing the Security+ exam often requires an investment of both time and money. The return on your investment will depend on your personal career goals. If you're interested in pursuing a career in cybersecurity, having a credential like the Security+ on your resume could give you a competitive edge as you apply for jobs. But there are other potential benefits as well. Preparing for the exam can be a good way to develop your cybersecurity skills, giving you greater confidence in your ability to handle real-world security threats. Earning your Security+ is a major accomplishment. It could also be the first step in a long career in cybersecurity. As you advance in the field, you may choose to pursue other certifications to qualify you for better opportunities. How much can I make with a Security+ certification? Many jobs in the information security field use the skills and knowledge tested by Security+. Here's a look at some available job titles on LinkedIn that request or require this certification, along with their average yearly pay in the US from Glassdoor: SOC analyst: \$91,376 Systems administrator: \$92,103 Vulnerability analyst: \$120,084 Database administrator: \$105,501 Cybersecurity consultant: \$124,745 Information security analyst: \$114,570 Information systems architect: \$142,213 Cyber threat hunter: \$104,398 Read more: 5 Cybersecurity Career Paths (and How to Get Started) The CompTIA Security+ is one of seven certifications approved by the US Department of Defense as an information assurance (IA) baseline certification. Earning this certification meets the minimum certification requirement for IA Level II jobs. Other entry-level cybersecurity certifications The Security+ isn't the only entry-level certification worth considering. Here's a quick comparison of some other popular options. Security+ Systems Security Certified Practitioner (SSCP) Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH) GIAC Security Essentials (GSEC) Provider CompTIA (ISC) EC-Council GIAC Vendor neutral Yes Yes Yes Focus General General Penetration testing General Cost (US) \$392 \$249 \$950 to \$1,199 \$2,499 Prerequisites None One year paid work experience or degree in cybersecurity Two years of work experience or completed EC-Council training None LinkedIn job postings (US) 795,850 15,744 6,002 4,348 How to prepare for the CompTIA Security+ exam There's more than one way to prepare for the Security+ exam. How you choose to prepare will depend on your previous experience, current knowledge, and learning style. Here are some options to consider. Read more: 10 Test-Taking Tips to Set You Up for Success 1. Exam prep courses Several organizations offer exam preparation courses specifically for the Security+ exam (including CompTIA). Registering for a course can give structure to your learning and help ensure that you cover all the required topics. As you're researching courses, make sure to find one that covers the latest version of the exam (SY0-601). 2. CompTIA Security+ practice tests Taking a practice test can help you identify what topics you might need to study up on while giving you a feel for what it's like to take the actual test. This could have the added benefit of calming nerves on test day. CompTIA offers a free practice test for the Security+, though you can find many others with a quick internet search. If you're preparing for the exam on your own, it might help to take a practice test early in your preparation to assess where you are, then again a couple of weeks before your exam date to determine where you still need to study. 3. Cybersecurity learning resources If you'd prefer to build your own program to prepare for the exam, you'll find no shortage of resources out there to help you—everything from books and website articles to blogs and podcasts. Here are a few resources recommended by those who've passed the exam to get you started: Professor Messer: This popular YouTube channel features 177 free videos specifically for the latest Security+ exam. They're also available as a podcast. CompTIA Security+ Get Certified Get Ahead: SY0-601 Study Guide: This book by Darril Gibson, available as an ebook or paperback, covers the exam objectives with more than 300 practice test questions with detailed explanations. Quizlet: Build your own set of flashcards to study acronyms. 4. CompTIA Security+ exam tips No matter how you choose to prepare for the certification exam, here are some tips to help you do your best. Use flashcards to help you memorize acronyms and port numbers. Read all the answer options in multiple choice questions carefully, and eliminate the ones you know are wrong before choosing your answer. If you're unsure about a question, flag it for review and come back to it later if you have time. Pay attention to words like "best," "most," and "least" in the test questions. These can sometimes help you narrow down your answer options. Take sample tests from more than one vendor (if your budget allows). Continue preparing until you can reliably pass with an 80 or 90 percent. Answer every question, even if you have to guess. CompTIA does not penalize your score for wrong answers. You can reschedule your exam up to 24 hours before your appointment time. Feel free to take advantage if you feel you need more time to prepare. Join the CompTIA groups on Reddit and Discord to connect with others studying for the exam. Start earning your cybersecurity credentials today on Coursera When you're ready to prepare for the CompTIA Security+ exam, you can get targeted, guided practice with CompTIA's a+ cyber Specialization. Or, if you're interested in starting your career in cybersecurity, consider the Google Cybersecurity Professional Certificate on Coursera. This program is designed to help individuals with no previous experience find their first job in the field of cybersecurity, all at their own pace. The courses cover topics such as security models, tools that are used to access and address threats, networks, and more. Share — copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. Adapt — remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms. Attribution — You must give appropriate credit, provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made. You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. ShareAlike — If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you must distribute your contributions under the same license as the original. No additional restrictions — You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits. You do not have to comply with the license for elements of the material in the public domain or where your use is permitted by an applicable exception or limitation. No warranties are given. The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. Want to know what to expect on your CompTIA A+ exam? Download a set of free A+ practice test questions to test your knowledge, to help you prepare for your exam and to view examples of questions that you may see on your exam. These questions are based on the A+ exam objectives and are not questions from the A+ certification exam. Get a set of free practice test questions for your CompTIA certification exam. While these exact questions are not part of the actual exam, they give you a good idea of what kind of questions you may see for A+, Security+ and Network+. These questions are available for all CompTIA certification exams.