

Basic/Beginner Blueprint Reading & Estimating

This Self-Assessment will help you/us decide which course would be a good starting point for you to learn Blueprint Reading and the Estimating of Building Materials.

Pick an answer that best describes your ability and enter it on the My Score line.

1. How much work experience do you have in this industry?

- | | |
|---|----------|
| I have less than a year of work experience | 1 Point |
| I have more than one year | 2 Points |
| I have more than two years' of experience | 3 Points |
| I have more than three years' of experience | 4 Points |
| I have more than four years' of work experience in the industry | 5 Points |

My Score: _____

2. What is your comfort level in understanding drawings (blueprints)?

- | | |
|--|----------|
| I have no comfort level | 1 Point |
| I have some comfort level and am usually comfortable with my understanding of drawings | 3 Points |
| I can read drawings | 5 Points |

My Score: _____

3. I am familiar with and can read an Architect's Scale

- | | |
|---|----------|
| I don't know how to read the scale | 1 Point |
| I can read an Architect's Scale | 2 Points |
| I know how to read the inch scale | 3 Points |
| I can read fractions of an inch on a scale | 4 Points |
| I am comfortable using an Architect's Scale | 5 Points |

My Score: _____

4. I can add up a string of dimensions in feet and inches

- | | |
|---|----------|
| No, I don't know how to complete this task | 1 Point |
| I am not sure that I can complete this task | 2 Points |
| If I use my feet and inch calculator | 3 Points |
| I usually can however I could use some help | 4 Points |
| I can add up a string of dimensions | 5 Points |

My Score: _____

5. I have carpentry knowledge or wood framing (construction) experience

- | | |
|--|----------|
| I have no experience | 1 Point |
| I have less than one year of construction experience | 3 Points |
| I have one to two years of construction experience | 5 Points |

My Score: _____

6. I know how to find the information that I am looking for on a set of drawings
 I don't know how to read or navigate drawings 1 Point
- I am not sure how to interpret the lines and wish I could find things easier 3 Points
- I am comfortable and confident reading drawings 5 Points
- My Score: _____

7. I need to do a complete material takeoff for a project
 I do not know where to start 1 Point
- I have one to two years of material take off experience and I am not sure if I missed any items 3 Points
- I am comfortable with my takeoffs 5 Points
- My Score: _____

8. I use the following when doing material take-offs
 An architect's scale and traditional calculator 1 Point
- An architect's scale, an electronic scale and traditional calculator 2 Points
- An architect's scale and Construction Master calculator 3 Points
- All of the above 4 Points
- A computer linked digitizer, pad and Construction Master calculator 5 Points
- My Score: _____

9. A plan view is:
- The view looking at the sides of the building
 - Looking at a horizontal cut through of the building
 - Looking at the entire set of prints
 - Looking at the exterior of the building
- 5 Points_____

10. A section is:
- Looking at a view of the sides of the building
 - Is a portion of the page with more than one drawing on it
 - Is looking at a cut through of the building
 - Is looking at the building in 3D
- 5 Points_____

11. The most common scale for residential plan drawings is:
- $\frac{1}{4}'' = 1'$
 - $\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'$
 - $\frac{1}{2}'' = 1'$
 - $1'' = 1'$
- 5 Points_____

12. The most common scales for residential elevations are:
- $\frac{1}{4}''$ or $\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'$
 - $\frac{1}{4}''$ or $\frac{1}{16}'' = 1'$
 - $\frac{1}{4}''$ or $\frac{1}{2}'' = 1'$
 - $\frac{1}{2}''$ or $1'' = 1'$
- 5 Points_____

13. Add the following:

$$7' 8 \frac{1}{4}'' + 25' \frac{1}{4}'' + 37 \frac{1}{4}''$$

- a. 35' 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ ''
- b. 69' $\frac{3}{4}$ ''
- c. 44' 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ ''
- d. 39' 9 $\frac{1}{8}$ ''

5 Points_____

14. The majority of material take-offs are from

- a. The elevations and foundation plan
- b. The floor plans and sections
- c. The site plan and isometric
- d. The site plan and floor plan

5 Points_____

Select the correct answer

15. A "W-type" roof truss allows for ample attic storage

- a. True
- b. False

5 Points_____

16. A "TJI" is also referred to a wooden "I" beam

- a. True
- b. False

5 Points_____

17. A "W-type" floor truss is lower in height than a "TJI" designed for the same load

- a. True
- b. False

5 Points_____

18. Metal trusses are the design choice in most residential construction because they have a better fire rating

- a. True
- b. False

5 Points_____

19. 2 x 4 150/10' = 100 BdFt

- a. True
- b. False

5 Points_____

20. To cover 1000 SqFt it will take 79 pcs of 4 x 8 sheathing

- a. True
- b. False

5 Points_____

Total Score _____

If your Total Score is:

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 0 – 29 Points | Assessment results recommend registration for the Introduction to Building Materials course first to develop a better understanding of industry terminology, product and processes, and building concepts before taking the Basic/Beginner Blueprint Reading & Material Estimating course. |
| 30 – 59 Points | Assessment results recommend registration for this Basic/Beginner course first to build a foundation before taking the Intermediate Blueprint Reading & Material Estimating course. |
| 60 - 79 Points | You probably have a good foundation of knowledge however consider using this course to fill in the missing links in your understanding of Blueprint Reading & Estimating prior to moving forward into the Intermediate course. |
| 80- 100 Points | Consider taking the Assessment for the Intermediate Blueprint Reading & Estimating course to confirm you're positioned correctly to skip Basic/Beginner Blueprint Reading & Estimating and begin with Intermediate Blueprint Reading & Estimating. |

Please complete the questions below to provide additional information to the instructor to ensure that specific objectives are achieved during the course.

1. What are your expectations or goals for this course?

2. Is there a specific question, topic, situation, or problem which you want to ensure is addressed during the course?

Name _____ Company _____

Phone# _____ Email _____

Please return completed form to pmchale@nrla.org or fax to 518.880.6381