

# COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA HOME IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTING EXAMINATION

Effective 1/18/25 you can use the 2018 or 2021 edition. Starting 5/1/25 the exam will be based on the 2021 edition for all ICC codes including the International Building Code, International Residential Code, International Mechanical Code, International Plumbing Code, International Fuel Gas Code, International Energy Conservation Code, International Swimming Pool and Spa Code.

**Scope of Work:** Home Improvement Contracting (Abbr: HIC) means that service which provides for repairs or improvements to dwellings and townhouses as defined in the USBC or structures annexed to those dwellings or townhouses as defined in the USBC. The RBC classification also provides for this function. The HIC specialty does not provide for electrical, plumbing, HVAC, or gas fitting functions. It does not include new construction functions beyond the existing building structure other than decks, patios, driveways and utility out buildings that do not require a permit per the USBC.

HIC includes the following specialties and they are not required to be listed separately on your contractor license.

- Masonry Contracting (BRK)
- Painting and Wallcovering Contracting (PTC)
- Roofing Contracting (ROC)

# of Questions	Minimum Passing Score	Time Allowed
50	70% (35 correct)	120 Minutes

### CONTENT OUTLINE

Subject Area	# of Items
Concrete	4
Masonry	4
Painting and Wall Covering	4
Drywall	4
Rough Carpentry and Framing	5
Siding	5
Finish Carpentry	5
Roofing	5
Insulation	5
Safety	5
Windows and Doors	4

### EXAMINATION REFERENCE MATERIAL

The following is a list of possible reference materials for the examination. The list is given to identify resources and does not constitute an endorsement by PSI or by the Virginia Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation.

The reference material listed below was used to prepare the questions for this examination. The examination may also contain questions based on trade knowledge, or general industry practices. You can use any edition of references and Code books as they become available.

However, for Code questions, the examination will be based only on the edition of the Code book that is listed.

NOTE: All examinations are open-book. You must bring your own references as they are not provided at the test site. No study guides are permitted.

No loose papers or unbound references are permitted. If you download a reference from the Internet, it must be spiral bound or hole-punched and placed in a binder, or stapled in the left-hand corner.

References may be highlighted, underlined, and/or indexed prior to the exam. Reference materials containing any writing will not be allowed into the examination. You may not write in reference materials during the examination session. A candidate caught writing in the references during the examination will have the references confiscated and will be reported to the Department.

References may be tabbed with permanent tabs only. NO REMOVABLE TABS are allowed.

The following list of tabs may be used. These items may be purchased at local office supply stores.

#### **Acceptable Tabs**

Avery Swift Tabs Self-Adhesive Permanent Plastic Tabs  
Redi-Tag Self-Stick Permanent Adhesive Index Tabs

#### **Unacceptable Tabs**

Post-It Index Flags  
Post-It Flags

The URL listed for each reference is generated from the most current searches. However, placement of material on websites may be modified resulting in some discrepancies. If you are unable to find the reference under the URL listed, it is recommended that you search online via a search engine (e.g., Google).

- *Code of Federal Regulations - 29 CFR Part 1926 (OSHA)*, with latest available amendments, 866-512-1800, <https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1926>

#### **OR**

*Code of Federal Regulations - 29 CFR Part 1926 Selections by PSI*, with latest available amendments, 866-589-3088, <https://www.psionlinestore.com/29-cfr-part-1926-selections-2013/>

- *International Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings*, 2018, International Code Council, (800) 786- 4452 <https://www.amazon.com/International-Residential-Two-Family-Dwellings-Council/dp/1609837371>
- *Carpentry and Building Construction*, 2010 or 2016 (Student Edition), John L. Feirer and Mark D. Feirer, McGraw-Hill, <https://www.amazon.com/Carpentry-Building-Construction-Student-Feirer/dp/B006N1NRF0>



- *ASCC-1(05): The Contractor's Guide to Quality Concrete Construction*, 2005, 3rd Edition, American Concrete Institute, (248) 848-3700, [https://www.concrete.org/store/productdetail.aspx?temID=ASCC105&Format=HARD\\_COPY](https://www.concrete.org/store/productdetail.aspx?temID=ASCC105&Format=HARD_COPY)
- *Craftsman's Manual and Textbook*, 8<sup>th</sup> edition, 1995, Painting and Decorating Contractors of America, <https://www.amazon.com/Painting-Decorating-Craftsmans-Manual-Textbook/dp/0915050005>
- *Modern Masonry - Brick, Block, Stone*, Clois E. Kicklighter, 8th Edition, The Goodheart-Willcox Company, (800) 323-0440, <https://www.g-wonlinetextbooks.com/cdn-1539030543536/modern-masonry-2016/1>
- *Standard Practice for Installation of Rigid Poly Vinyl Chloride (PVC) Siding and Soffit* - ASTM D 4756 - 06, 2006, American Society for Testing and Materials, <https://www.astm.org>
- *Insulation Handbook*, 2000, Richard T. Bynum, Jr., McGraw-Hill, [https://www.amazon.com/Insulation-Handbook-Richard-T-Bynum/dp/0071589856/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1381447754&sr=1-1&keywords=insulation+handbook](https://www.amazon.com/Insulation-Handbook-Richard-T-Bynum/dp/0071589856/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1381447754&sr=1-1&keywords=insulation+handbook)
- *Gypsum Construction Handbook*, 2014 Edition, United States Gypsum Company (USG), <https://www.wiley.com/en-us/The+Gypsum+Construction+Handbook%2C+7th+Edition-p-9781118749845>
- *Finish Carpenters' Manual*, 1993, <https://www.amazon.com/Finish-Carpenters-Manual-Jim-Tolpin/dp/0934041822>
- *ANSI A117.1-2017 Accessible and Usable Buildings and Facilities* <https://shop.iccsafe.org/icc-a117-1-2017-standard-for-accessible-and-usable-buildings-and-facilities-1.html>