EXAM PREPARATION

For the COMPTIA A+ (220-1001 and 220-1002)

_____

It is best to ONLY work on 1 CompTIA Exam at a time.

There are 2 for the CompTIA A+ (220-1001 and 220-1002)

However, you may find yourself taking 2 classes each with a CompTIA Exam as the Final Exam

For these cases, it is recommended that you schedule your two exams at least a week apart.

This Study Guide is provided to help you prepare for your IT industry certification exams. My hope is to provide you with current resources following the exam prep blueprint that has worked for me during my career, to prepare for industry certification exams.   This process is intense and time consuming. However, I have seen it work for myself and hundreds of students and I do believe it to be a very efficient way to prepare yourself for the exam. I hope this guide helps you with your certification studies. – Kerry Bruce (kbruce@cnm.edu)

If you know of additional resources that I have not listed here that have helped you prepare for IT Industry Certification exams please let me know so we can include it in future version of this Study Guide.

FOR EACH EXAM YOU ARE WORKING ON

1. Complete the Course Materials (Currently Cengage)
2. Take the Practice Exams in your Course Materials ONE TIME (Currently Cengage). (Score is NOT important now)
3. Print the CompTIA Exam objectives for your CompTIA Exam.

a. Can be found in Blackboard Final Exam Folder or online from CompTIA.

4. Go through the Objectives list line by line, marking off the topics you feel comfortable with. Think… Can I explain this to someone else?

5. Once you have gone through ALL the pages...Use the Web, Wikipedia, Safari Books, and/or Cengage to review the items you are not comfortable with.

   a. Optional Resources to aid your studies…

      i. Consider using the flashcards from any module you are struggling with. (This may be specific to the Cengage Materials we use)

      ii. Watch specific Professor Messer YouTube Videos for the topics you are weak on for whichever exam you are studying for.

         1. CompTIA 220-1001 (A+ Core I)

            a. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cd2qOQiugY4&list=PLG49S3nxzAnntQ0GrmBtmxrIn7Y2p9e7

         2. CompTIA 220-1002 (A+ Core II)

a. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ChQ18B1hofI&list=PLG49S3nxzAnmwkCAdWUgCFvVK4IxMBTmb

iii. Watch specific Mike Meyers Total Seminars Videos, on O'Reilly Safari Online Learning, for the topics you are weak on for whichever exam you are studying for.

    1. CompTIA 220-1001 (A+ Core I)

        a. https://learning.oreilly.com/videos/comptia-a-2019/9781839212079

    2. CompTIA 220-1002 (A+ Core II)

        a. https://learning.oreilly.com/videos/comptia-a-2019/9781839215490

iv. Watch specific David L. Prowse Complete Video Course Videos, on O'Reilly Safari Online Learning, for the topics you are weak on for whichever exam you are studying for.

    1. CompTIA 220-1001 (A+ Core I)

        a. https://learning.oreilly.com/videos/comptia-a-core/9780135305331

    2. CompTIA 220-1002 (A+ Core II)

      a. https://learning.oreilly.com/videos/comptia-a-core/9780135305300

v. Available Safari Books

  1. CompTIA A+ Certification All-in-One Exam Guide, Tenth Edition (Exams 220-1001 & 220-1002), 10th Edition

      a. https://learning.oreilly.com/library/view/comptia-a-certification/9781260454048/

  2. Complete A+ Guide to IT Hardware and Software: A CompTIA A+ Core 1 (220-1001) and CompTIA A+ Core 2 (220-1002) Textbook, 8th Edition

      a. https://learning.oreilly.com/library/view/complete-a-guide/9780135291542/

  3. CompTIA A+ Core 1 (220-1001) and Core 2 (220-1002) Exam Cram

      a. https://learning.oreilly.com/library/view/comptia-a-core/9780135301265/

  4. CompTIA A+ Certification Study Guide, Tenth Edition (Exams 220-1001 & 220-1002), 10th Edition

a. https://learning.oreilly.com/library/view/comptia-a-certification/9781260456660/

5. CompTIA A+ Core 1 (220-1001) and Core 2 (220-1002) Cert Guide, 5th Edition

   a. https://learning.oreilly.com/library/view/comptia-a-core/9780135300053/

vi. If you have an Albuquerque Library Card you can access Lynda.com through the Libraries website where you can watch other training videos related to your exam.

   1. https://www.lynda.com/portal/Patron?org=cabq.gov

6. Once you have reviewed the topics you were not comfortable with in Step 4 take the Practice Exam in your Course Materials again aiming for a grade higher that 95%.

7. After each Practice Exam Attempt review the topics you are weak in by repeating steps 4-6 until you achieve a 95% or better on the Practice Exam then proceed to step 8.

8. It is always helpful to continue studying with practice questions right up until the time to take the exam.

   a. You can get additional practice from several places

i. The Safari Online books listed above contain tons of questions.

ii. OPTIONAL: You can purchase practice tests from:

    1. CompTIA (Certmaster) $129.00

        a. https://store.comptia.org/p/CM220

    2. Measure Up ($99 for 30 days)

        a. https://www.measureup.com/ctia-220-1001-a-1.html

        b. https://www.measureup.com/ctia-220-1002-a-2.html

    3. CyberVista (Transcender) $129 for 180 Days)

        a. https://certify.cybervista.net/products/comptia/a-core-exam-1-practice-test/

        b. https://certify.cybervista.net/products/comptia/a-core-exam-2-practice-test/

    4. Professor Messer $25.00 for Core I Exam

        a. https://www.professormesser.com/220-1001-success-bundle/

iii. Professor Messer also has YouTube Study Groups that you can watch to get hints, tips, and tricks on how to prepare for and take the CompTIA exams.

   1. CompTIA A+ 220-1001 Study Group

      a. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cd2qOQiugY4&list=PLG49S3nxzAnntQ0GrmBtmxrIn7Y2p9e7

   2. CompTIA A+ 220-1002 Study Group

      a. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QLBCH7o7878&list=PLG49S3nxzAnmsZ5J7lwbS4o7a3YtljNuI

iv. Professor Messer also has Course Notes for each Exam.

   1. CompTIA A+ 220-1001 ($20)

      a. https://www.professormesser.com/220-1001-success-bundle/

   2. CompTIA A+ 220-1002 ($20)

      a. https://www.professormesser.com/220-1002-success-bundle/