



# **COURSE 962560**

## **Blueprint Reading Principals**

### **Exam Material**

**Uscontractorlicense LLC**

PO Box 268 / Platteville, Wisconsin 53818 / 608.348.6688 / [www.uscontractorlicense.com](http://www.uscontractorlicense.com)



This course is a distance learning or e-learning course, which allows the attendee to complete the course on their time schedule.

### **Course Outline**

This course is a distance learning or e-learning course, which allows the attendee to complete the course on their time schedule.

Introduction  
Learning Objectives  
Review of Previous Topics  
Projecting the View  
Five Basis Views  
How to Read Plans  
The Language of Plans  
Proper Handling of Drawings and Plans  
Scale  
Using a Fractional Rule  
Glossary

### **Exam**

120 questions related to the reference materials are used to test the attendee on their comprehension of the materials. A 70% score will need to be attained in order to pass this course.

### **Answer Sheet(s)**

1 bubble style answer sheets are included. When you are finished with the exam, you may return the answer sheets for grading to:

By Mail: Uscontractorlicense LLC  
PO Box 268  
Platteville, Wisconsin 53818

By Email: michael@uscontractorlicense.com

By Fax: 608-571-0096

Once we get the answer sheets back, we will grade them, enter your hours into the attendance portal and email or mail you back your certificate of completion(s). You will be responsible for renewing your license with the DSPS at [www.license.wi.gov](http://www.license.wi.gov) website.

Any questions, please contact us at 608.348.6688

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# Blueprint Reading Principles Exam

## Questions 1 thru 3 Can Be Found on Page 2

### - Introduction

#### 1. The Blueprint Plans and Drawings course is intended to:

- A. Teach drafting software
- B. Provide the basis for using architectural plans
- C. Explain building codes
- D. Train inspectors

#### 2. The course teaches how to locate symbols and abbreviations on:

- A. Contracts
- B. Construction documents
- C. Permits
- D. Specifications only

#### 3. Scale is used to determine:

- A. Cost
- B. Dimensions on a set of plans
- C. Materials
- D. Scheduling

## Questions 4 thru 5 Can Be Found on Page 3

### - Topics

#### 4. Which topic is included in this course?

- A. Jobsite safety
- B. How to read plans
- C. Welding methods
- D. Cost estimating

#### 5. The language of plans includes:

- A. Contracts
- B. Symbols, abbreviations, and lines
- C. Permits
- D. Codes

## Questions 6 thru 7 Can Be Found on Page 4

### - Learning Outcomes

#### 6. Students should be able to identify:

- A. Contractor schedules
- B. Various drawing views
- C. Labor costs
- D. Inspection reports

#### 7. Proper handling of plans includes:

- A. Folding drawings
- B. Writing notes freely
- C. Preventing damage
- D. Laminating sheets

## Questions 8 thru 12 Can Be Found on Page 5

### - Review of Prior Learning

#### 8. Blueprints are:

- A. Marketing documents
- B. Detailed architectural drawings
- C. Inspection records
- D. Cost breakdowns

#### 9. Specifications are:

- A. Drawings
- B. Written construction instructions
- C. Floor plans
- D. Elevations

#### 10. Architectural drawings form the basis for:

- A. Civil drawings only
- B. All other drawings
- C. Electrical drawings only
- D. Mechanical drawings only

#### 11. Visualization is the ability to:

- A. Read dimensions
- B. Form a mental picture of the structure
- C. Calculate materials
- D. Interpret codes

**12. A shop drawing shows:**

- A. Entire structures
- B. Exact details for a specific trade
- C. Property boundaries
- D. Schedules

**Question 13 Can Be Found on Page 6 -  
Orthographic Drawings**

**13. Orthographic drawings show objects using:**

- A. Perspective views
- B. Two-dimensional views
- C. Isometric views
- D. Freehand sketches

**Questions 14 thru 16 Can Be Found on Page 7  
- Projecting the View**

**14. Orthographic projection relates views by:**

- A. Color
- B. Right angles
- C. Scale
- D. Symbols

**15. In orthographic projection, the front view:**

- A. Rotates
- B. Remains in position
- C. Is removed
- D. Is enlarged

**16. Orthographic views are projected at:**

- A. 45°
- B. 60°
- C. 90°
- D. 120°

**Questions 17 thru 18 Can Be Found on Page 8  
- Blueprint Views**

**17. The first step in building a structure is to:**

- A. Excavate
- B. Develop a plan
- C. Order materials
- D. Hire labor

**18. A plan is:**

- A. A legal document
- B. A set of technical drawings
- C. A specification
- D. A contract

**Questions 19 thru 20 Can Be Found on Page 9  
- Five Basic Views**

**19. How many basic elevation views are identified?**

- A. Three
- B. Four
- C. Five
- D. Six

**20. Which is a basic view?**

- A. Electrical plan
- B. Plot plan
- C. Mechanical plan
- D. Finish plan

**Questions 21 thru 22 Can Be Found on  
Page 10 - Plot Plans**

**21. A plot plan shows:**

- A. Interior layout
- B. How the structure fits on the lot
- C. Roof framing
- D. Wall sections

**22. A plot plan is also called a:**

- A. Floor plan
- B. Site plan
- C. Detail plan
- D. Section plan

**Questions 23 thru 24 Can Be Found on Page 11 - Elevations**

**23. Elevation drawings show:**

- A. Interior rooms
- B. Exterior views at eye level
- C. Roof slope
- D. Utilities

**24. Elevations are labeled using:**

- A. Numbers
- B. Letters
- C. Compass directions
- D. Colors

**Questions 25 thru 26 Can Be Found on Page 12 - Floor Plans**

**25. Floor plans are viewed as if:**

- A. From the basement
- B. Looking down from above
- C. At an angle
- D. From outside

**26. Floor plans provide:**

- A. Minimal information
- B. The most information
- C. Only wall locations
- D. Only door sizes

**Questions 27 thru 28 Can Be Found on Page 13 - Cross Section or Wall Section**

**27. A section view is created as if the building were:**

- A. Rotated
- B. Folded
- C. Sliced vertically
- D. Tilted

**28. Section views clarify:**

- A. Landscaping
- B. Interior construction
- C. Property lines
- D. Finishes only

**Questions 29 thru 31 Can Be Found on Page 14 - Door, Window and Finish Schedules**

**29. Door and window schedules list:**

- A. Costs
- B. Sizes and information
- C. Labor
- D. Codes

**30. Doors are listed:**

- A. Alphabetically
- B. By room
- C. Numerically
- D. By material

**31. Windows are listed:**

- A. Numerically
- B. Alphabetically
- C. By elevation
- D. By size

**Questions 32 thru 33 Can Be Found on Page 15 - Proper Handling**

**32. Plans should be stored:**

- A. Folded
- B. Rolled outward
- C. In a clean, dry place
- D. Under tools

**33. Writing on plans is allowed only when:**

- A. In pencil
- B. Authorized
- C. During construction
- D. After approval

**Questions 34 thru 35 Can Be Found on Page 16 - Detail Views**

**34. A detail drawing is:**

- A. A full building view
- B. A close-up of a component
- C. A site plan
- D. A roof plan

**35. Detail views are commonly used for:**

- A. Landscaping
- B. Walls and hardware
- C. Property boundaries
- D. Schedules

**Question 36 Can Be Found on Page 17 - Plan and Drawings**

**36. Individual sheets together form:**

- A. A contract
- B. A set of plans
- C. A specification
- D. A permit

**Questions 37 thru 39 Can Be Found on Page 18 - How to Read Plans**

**37. Plan reading is:**

- A. Drafting
- B. Gathering information from plans
- C. Estimating
- D. Scheduling

**38. Visualization means:**

- A. Measuring
- B. Envisioning size and shape
- C. Calculating costs
- D. Reading notes

**39. Interpretation involves:**

- A. Costs
- B. Lines, symbols, and dimensions
- C. Schedules
- D. Permits

**Question 40 Can Be Found on Page 19 - The Language of Plans**

**40. The language of plans consists primarily of:**

- A. Contracts and codes
- B. Symbols, abbreviations, and lines
- C. Schedules and specifications
- D. Notes and legends only

**Questions 41 thru 43 Can Be Found on Page 20 - The Language of Plans**

**41. Drawings typically use symbols and abbreviations that are:**

- A. Unique to each project
- B. Decorative
- C. Standard to the industry with some variation
- D. Required by law

**42. The architect must ensure symbols used are:**

- A. Artistic
- B. Understood by those reading the plans
- C. Approved by inspectors
- D. Identical on all projects

**43. A table or legend is used to explain:**

- A. Costs
- B. Specifications
- C. Symbols and abbreviations
- D. Dimensions

### **Questions 44 thru 45 Can Be Found on Page 21 - The Language of Plans**

**44. Symbol and abbreviation lists at the front of plans are usually created by:**

- A. Contractors
- B. Engineers
- C. Architectural firms
- D. Inspectors

**45. Separate symbol lists may be created by:**

- A. Owners
- B. Surveyors
- C. Mechanical or electrical engineers
- D. Suppliers

### **Questions 46 thru 49 Can Be Found on Page 22 - The Language of Plans - Symbols**

**46. Symbols generally do not resemble the objects they represent and must be:**

- A. Interpreted
- B. Memorized
- C. Estimated
- D. Scaled

**47. Which is a type of symbol used on plans?**

- A. Civil symbol
- B. Drawing or graphic symbol
- C. Cost symbol
- D. Inspection symbol

**48. Architectural material symbols are recognized by:**

- A. Shape
- B. Color
- C. Familiarity
- D. Size

**49. All tradespersons should be familiar with symbols because they:**

- A. Affect scheduling
- B. Affect their area of construction
- C. Affect inspection fees
- D. Show cost

### **Questions 50 thru 51 Can Be Found on Page 23 - The Language of Plans - Drawing Symbols**

**50. A column grid symbol is used to identify:**

- A. Wall thickness
- B. Column locations
- C. Door numbers
- D. Window sizes

**51. A north arrow symbol indicates:**

- A. Elevation height
- B. Project location
- C. Directional orientation
- D. Wind direction

### **Question 52 Can Be Found on Page 24 - The Language of Plans - Material Symbols**

**52. Material symbols are used to indicate:**

- A. Labor requirements
- B. Construction materials
- C. Dimensions
- D. Costs

**Questions 53 thru 55 Can Be Found on Page 25 - The Language of Plans - Abbreviations**

**53. Abbreviations are used primarily to:**

- A. Improve appearance
- B. Save time and space
- C. Indicate costs
- D. Show scale

**54. Abbreviations may:**

- A. Have one meaning only
- B. Never change
- C. Have multiple meanings
- D. Be decorative

**55. Abbreviations are explained on:**

- A. Floor plans
- B. Elevations
- C. The legend or cover sheet
- D. Schedules

**Questions 56 thru 57 Can Be Found on Page 26 - The Language of Plans - Lines**

**56. Lines are the basis of:**

- A. Specifications
- B. All industrial drawings
- C. Contracts
- D. Codes

**57. The meaning of a line is determined by:**

- A. Its color
- B. Its thickness and pattern
- C. Its location
- D. Its length

**Questions 58 thru 59 Can Be Found on Page 27 - The Language of Plans - Property Lines**

**58. Property lines are drawn using:**

- A. Thin solid lines
- B. Medium dashed lines
- C. Extra-heavy dashed lines
- D. Zigzag lines

**59. Property lines are typically found on:**

- A. Floor plans
- B. Elevations
- C. Site plans
- D. Sections

**Questions 60 thru 61 Can Be Found on Page 28 - The Language of Plans - Object Lines**

**60. Object lines are:**

- A. Thin dashed lines
- B. Heavy continuous lines
- C. Center lines
- D. Break lines

**61. Object lines show the outline of:**

- A. Hidden features
- B. Objects such as rooms, doors, and windows
- C. Dimensions
- D. Property boundaries

**Questions 62 thru 63 Can Be Found on Page 29 - The Language of Lines - Hidden Lines**

**62. Hidden lines are made of:**

- A. Solid heavy lines
- B. Short evenly spaced dashes
- C. Zigzag lines
- D. Alternating long and short dashes

**63. Hidden lines show:**

- A. Visible edges
- B. Obstructed objects
- C. Dimensions
- D. Centers

**Questions 64 thru 65 Can Be Found on Page 30 - The Language of Plans - Break Lines**

**64. Break lines indicate that an object:**

- A. Is centered
- B. Is incomplete to save space
- C. Is hidden
- D. Is symmetrical

**65. A long break line is shown by:**

- A. Dots
- B. Zigzag lines
- C. Short dashes
- D. Solid lines

**Questions 66 thru 68 Can Be Found on Page 31 - The Language of Plans - Dimension & Extension Lines**

**66. Dimension lines are used to indicate:**

- A. Location
- B. Distance between points
- C. Hidden objects
- D. Centers

**67. Extension lines show:**

- A. Object outlines
- B. Measured points
- C. Hidden edges
- D. Scale

**68. Measurements are written:**

- A. Below the object
- B. On or above the dimension line
- C. In notes only
- D. In the title block

**Questions 69 thru 70 Can Be Found on Page 32 - The Language of Plans - Center Lines**

**69. Center lines indicate the center of:**

- A. Property lines
- B. Symmetrical objects
- C. Hidden objects
- D. Dimensions

**70. Center lines are drawn using:**

- A. Solid lines
- B. Dotted lines
- C. Alternating long and short dashes
- D. Zigzag lines

**Questions 71 thru 72 Can Be Found on Page 33 - The Language of Plans - Leader Lines**

**71. Leader lines connect:**

- A. Dimensions to scale
- B. Notes to objects
- C. Walls to floors
- D. Sections to elevations

**72. Leader lines usually end with:**

- A. A square
- B. A number
- C. An arrowhead
- D. A dot only

**Questions 73 thru 74 Can Be Found on Page 35 - What Is the Scale of a Blueprint?**

**73. A scale is defined as the:**

- A. Length of the drawing
- B. Ratio of drawing size to actual size
- C. Cost factor of a project
- D. Weight of materials

**74. Blueprints are drawn to scale because buildings are:**

- A. Small
- B. Temporary
- C. Too large to draw full size
- D. Decorative

**Questions 75 thru 76 Can Be Found on Page 36 - Determine Scale Reading The Fractional Rules**

**75. A fractional rule is divided into:**

- A. Tenths
- B. Inches only
- C. Eighths or sixteenths
- D. Millimeters

**76. Fractional rules are commonly used for:**

- A. Large site plans
- B. Small objects and details
- C. Plot plans
- D. Civil drawings

**Questions 77 thru 79 Can Be Found on Page 37 - Reading the Architect's Scale**

**77. The architect's scale is primarily used for:**

- A. Plot plans
- B. Building construction drawings
- C. Road layouts
- D. Surveying

**78. Architect's scales measure primarily in:**

- A. Inches only
- B. Feet and inches
- C. Yards
- D. Millimeters

**79. The inch portion of an architect's scale is identified by:**

- A. Larger spacing
- B. Closely spaced lines
- C. Numbers only
- D. Decimal markings

**Questions 80 thru 81 Can Be Found on Page 38 - Reading The Architect's Scale**

**80. A triangular architect's scale contains:**

- A. 6 scales
- B. 8 scales
- C. 10 scales
- D. 11 scales

**81. A triangular scale is used because it:**

- A. Is cheaper
- B. Contains multiple scales in one tool
- C. Is more accurate
- D. Is required by code

**Questions 82 thru 83 Can Be Found on Page 39 - Triangular Scale**

**82. The most commonly used architectural scale is:**

- A.  $1/16'' = 1'-0''$
- B.  $1/8'' = 1'-0''$
- C.  $1/2'' = 1'-0''$
- D.  $1'' = 1'-0''$

**83. A larger scale drawing shows:**

- A. Less detail
- B. More detail
- C. Less accuracy
- D. Only outlines

## Questions 84 thru 85 Can Be Found on Page 40 - Bevel Scales

**84. When using a scale, measurements must be read:**

- A. From either end
- B. In the correct direction
- C. From the middle
- D. Using a ruler

**85. Reading a scale backward may result in:**

- A. Accurate dimensions
- B. Half or double the actual size
- C. No measurement
- D. Only minor errors

## Questions 86 thru 87 Can Be Found on Page 41 - Determining Actual Length

**86. Before measuring, you must verify:**

- A. Paper size
- B. The scale used on the drawing
- C. The material type
- D. The drawing date

**87. Dimensions written on drawings should:**

- A. Be ignored if scaled
- B. Always be used instead of scaling
- C. Be doubled
- D. Be estimated

## Question 88 Can Be Found on Page 55 - Engineer's Scale

**88. Engineer's scales are divided into:**

- A. Inches
- B. Fractions
- C. Tenths
- D. Sixteenths

## Questions 89 thru 92 Can Be Found on Page 56 - Determining Plan Dimensions

**89. Dimensions on plans are typically written in:**

- A. Inches only
- B. Feet only
- C. Feet and inches
- D. Decimals only

**90. When dimensions are written, the feet portion is shown as:**

- A. Fractions
- B. Decimals
- C. Whole numbers
- D. Roman numerals

**91. Inches in dimensions may be shown as:**

- A. Decimals only
- B. Fractions only
- C. Fractions or decimals
- D. Whole numbers only

**92. Which symbol is commonly used to indicate feet?**

- A. "
- B. '
- C. #
- D. @

## Questions 93 thru 95 Can Be Found on Page 57 - Determine Plan Dimensions

**93. When using a scale, the measurement taken represents:**

- A. Approximate size
- B. Drawing size
- C. Actual size
- D. Reduced size

**94. A line measuring 1 inch on a 1/4" = 1'-0" scale equals:**

- A. 2 feet
- B. 3 feet
- C. 4 feet
- D. 8 feet

**95. A 1-1/2" line on a 1/4" scale equals:**

- A. 5 feet
- B. 6 feet
- C. 7 feet
- D. 8 feet

**Questions 96 thru 99 Can Be Found on Page 58 - Determining Plan Dimensions**

**96. When a dimension is missing on a drawing, the correct action is to:**

- A. Estimate the distance
- B. Ignore the dimension
- C. Check other drawings
- D. Stop reading the plans

**97. Scaling should be used when:**

- A. Written dimensions are unclear or missing
- B. Dimensions are clearly given
- C. Estimating costs
- D. Reviewing specifications

**98. Equal distances shown on plans should:**

- A. Be close in size
- B. Be estimated
- C. Always be the same
- D. Be rounded

**99. Dimensions should always be:**

- A. Assumed correct
- B. Compared and checked
- C. Rounded up
- D. Ignored if scaled

**Questions 100 thru 120 Can Be Found on Pages 59 to the end of Review Material**

**100. Architectural drawings include working plans, elevations, and:**

- A. Contracts
- B. Details and other necessary information
- C. Inspection reports
- D. Cost estimates

**101. Engineer's scales are most commonly used for:**

- A. Interior floor plans
- B. Plot plans and site development
- C. Wall sections
- D. Finish schedules

**102. All tradespersons should understand symbols because they:**

- A. Control inspection schedules
- B. Affect their area of construction
- C. Determine labor costs
- D. Replace specifications

**103. An architect is defined as:**

- A. A construction supervisor
- B. A licensed person who designs building plans
- C. A building inspector
- D. A project manager

**104. CAD stands for:**

- A. Civil Architecture Design
- B. Computer Aided Design
- C. Construction Analysis Drawing
- D. Contract Assembly Document

**105. Structural plans are used to:**

- A. Show interior finishes
- B. Support architectural design
- C. Display furniture layouts
- D. Identify schedules

**106. The primary purpose of blueprint reading is to:**

- A. Design buildings
- B. Interpret construction documents accurately
- C. Estimate project costs
- D. Write specifications

**107. What is the primary purpose of an architect's scale?**

- A. To calculate structural loads
- B. To measure angles in drawings
- C. To lay out distances using feet, inches, and fractions of inches
- D. To draw curved architectural features

**108. Which of the following best describes architectural plans?**

- A. Construction schedules prepared by contractors
- B. Engineering calculations for structural members
- C. Material delivery and cost breakdown sheets
- D. Drawings prepared by an architect showing overall aesthetics, size, shape, and appearance

**109. What is a beam in building construction?**

- A. A vertical support transferring loads to the foundation
- B. A decorative trim element used in ceilings
- C. A large horizontal structural support made of steel, stone, or wood
- D. A surface used to attach interior finishes

**110. What is a blueprint?**

- A. A digital 3D model of a building
- B. A written description of construction procedures
- C. A photographic print of a technical drawing with white lines on a blue background or blue lines on a white background
- D. A hand-drawn sketch used only during design

**111. What do civil plans primarily show?**

- A. Interior room layouts
- B. Electrical wiring details
- C. Structural beam sizes
- D. The location of a building on a site from an aerial view

**112. Why are contour lines important on civil plans?**

- A. They show interior wall locations
- B. They identify door and window sizes
- C. They indicate roofing materials
- D. They help show changes in ground elevation and slope

**113. What are contract documents used for in a construction project?**

- A. To show only interior design features
- B. To record inspection results
- C. To describe all documents needed to build a project, including plans, specifications, general conditions, and the construction contract
- D. To list subcontractor contact information

**114. Which of the following is typically included in contract documents?**

- A. Shop drawings only
- B. Daily jobsite reports
- C. Building permits
- D. Plans and specifications

**115. What is the primary purpose of a detail drawing?**

- A. To show the building location on the site
- B. To provide a 3D view of the structure
- C. To show enlarged views of specific building features such as floors and walls
- D. To list material quantities

**116. How is a dimension line typically represented on a drawing?**

- A. With circles at each end and no numbers
- B. With a dashed line and no markings
- C. With arrowheads at both ends and the measurement written near the middle
- D. With symbols showing material types

**117. What information is shown on electrical plans?**

- A. Plumbing fixture locations
- B. Structural beam sizes
- C. HVAC duct routing
- D. Electrical supply and distribution locations, including meters and switchgear

**118. In architectural drawing, what does the term "elevation" refer to?**

- A. The width of a structure from side to side
- B. The interior room layout of a building
- C. The height above sea level or another defined surface
- D. The thickness of walls and floors

**119. What best describes an elevation drawing?**

- A. A top-down view of a building's layout
- B. A cut-through view showing internal construction
- C. A three-dimensional perspective view
- D. A side view showing the height of an object

**120. What is the primary purpose of an engineer's scale?**

- A. To measure angles on floor plans
- B. To show room dimensions in feet and inches
- C. To convert drawings into 3D models
- D. To measure and draw using uniform decimal divisions

