

Tips for Taking The CISSP Exam

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Topics

- Studying for the exam
- Preparing for the exam
- Taking the exam
- Obtaining the CISSP certification

Studying for the exam

- It is just an exam...
 - *Power of Positive Thinking*
 - The exam does not define your knowledge or expertise.
- Stay with it...
 - Don't stop. Keep the momentum going.
 - Go ahead and register. Let the commitment be the driver.
- Study, but no need to over-study...
 - One or two references are plenty.
 - Give yourself no more than a month after this course.
 - Two to three domain per week. It must be continuous.
 - Go to: <http://www.cccure.org> to take the online tests (15 min. per day.)
- Register for the exam...
 - Go to: <https://www.isc2.org/cbt/default.aspx> to search for exam schedule and test center
 - Go to: <http://www.pearsonvue.com/isc2/> to schedule a test

Preparing for the exam as a project

- Set up a schedule...
 - Four weeks before the exam...
 - Form a study group.
 - Meet one hour/day, every weekdays during lunch.
 - Use MITRE Lync.
 - A week before the exam...
 - Use the slide set as “flash cards”. Don’t save them, use them, mark them up.
 - Do a weekend drive to the test site. (Know where to park and where to stay.)
 - Night before the exam...
 - Don’t study. (You’re not going to learn anymore.)
 - No distraction or stress. Be prepared.
 - Go to bed early.

Taking the exam ... (1/2)

- Get familiar with CBT
 - Download the test tutorial & practice exam from Pearson Vue (<http://www.pearsonvue.com/athena/>)
 - Take an online tour of a Pearson Professional Center (<http://www.pearsonvue.com/ppc/>)
- Arrive early...
 - 15 minutes if you can. (You can schedule your exam in the morning or afternoon)
 - Bring your registration paperwork, government issued ID: Driver's License.
 - Bring your snacks and drink (in covered container).
 - Take your restroom break before you sign-in
- Listen and follow instructions...
 - Your proctor will lead you through the registration process and lead you to your workstation
 - Get familiar with your workstation and start when you're ready.

Taking the exam ...(2/2)

- Take your time, but not too much time...
 - 1 min. per question, but no more than 2.
 - Mark the questions that you're not sure on and move on.
- Do take a break...
 - Take at least one break. Take a break after you've answered 75 to 100 questions.
 - Proctor will likely only allow one person to get up at a time.
- Review your answers...
 1. Review the questions that you don't have an answer first.
 2. Review rest of your answers.
 - Your first answer likely be the right answer.
- Ignore your surroundings...
 - You'll have a mix cohort (ISSEP, ISSMP, ISSAP, and SSCP are 3 hour exams.)

Obtaining the certification

- Notification...
 - You will get your test result right away.
 - (ISC)² will send you a confirmation e-mail in couple of days.
 - The hyperlink in e-mail will take you to the endorsement form.
- Endorsement
 - Complete the application and form
 - Your resume/C.V. needs to illustrate 5 years of professional experience in at least two to three security domains
 - Have a CISSP to endorse you. Provide he/she...
 - Completed endorsement form
 - Your resume
 - Exam ID
- Your certificate...
 - (ISC)² will notify you in e-mail.
 - It will arrive 4-6 weeks in an 9x12 envelope
 - The package will contain your certificate and membership login information.