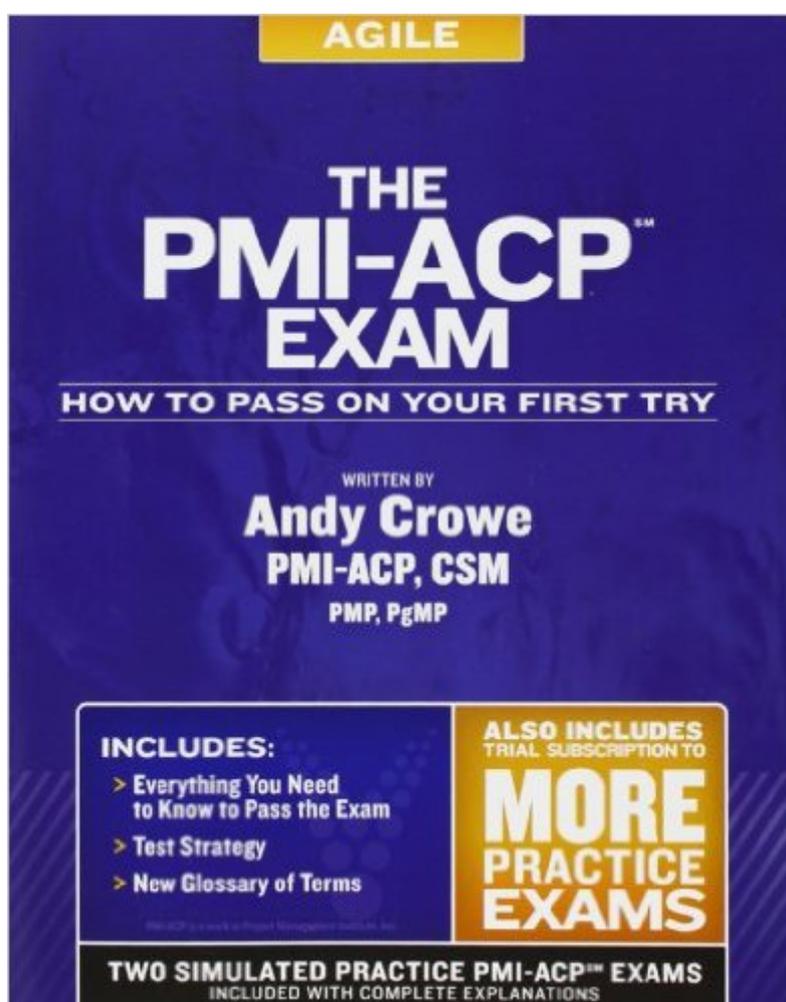


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# The PMI-ACP Exam: How To Pass On Your First Try (Test Prep Series)



## Synopsis

This is the first book written specifically for the new PMI-ACP exam. It is a single, compact reference that will help the reader prepare for and pass the certification exam. Contents include:

Understanding Agile, The PMI-ACP Exam, The Agile Manifesto, Project Justification, Teams & Team Space, Agile Planning, Working with Agile, Coaching with Agile, Agile Methodologies, How to Pass the PMI-ACP Exam, Glossary of Terms, 2 Simulated Exams with Answers.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book is not enough to pass the exam, infact it is more like a reference guide to make sure you covered all the topics for the exam. I used the following books and resources:1. "Agile Project Management with Scrum" by Ken Schwaber2. "Agile Planning and Estimation" by Mike Cohn - Overall the best book for this exam.3. Kanban by David Anderson [Even though this may be a over kill]4. Agileexams.com. A lot of questions repeat in these exams, so good to just get a understanding of Exam format. [I never passed any of the full length exams on this site, always ended up getting somewhere between 60-70%, the pass percentage was 81%, very high compared to actual exams pass percentage].5. Countless other resources on the web to fully understand Lean methodology, XP, Agile Manifesto, Agile artifacts, agile reports, etc.6. Used the "PMI® Agile Certified Practitioner PMI-ACP Exam Prep Study Group" on Linkedin site for some useful tips from people who passed the exam.7. Mock exams in this book. There are 2 full length exams at the end

and a link to free exams online by the author. I felt those exams had questions that were a close match to at least 30 % of the questions on the real exam, even though the real exam had very tricky answers. Hope that helps. BTW, I passed the exam last week. Cheers.

I used Andy Crowe material to pass the PMI-PMP exam so naturally I bought Andy's material for the PMI-ACP exam. After reading reviews of a multitude of resources (Training, Books, Practice Exams), I was really apprehensive about taking the PMI-ACP exam. My nagging question was, is this material alone enough to pass the exam? The answer is yes. I passed the exam "Proficient". During the exam I was amazed at how well prepared I was when answering the questions. I completed the exam and review of marked questions in 1.5 hours. If you really want to practice Agile concepts to prepare for the exam use the Andy Crowe material. Also, the online exam is very beneficial. I do agree with a previous post that there could be additional questions added. However, if you understand why your answers were right / wrong you will be prepared for the exam. I did review the Mike Griffiths book TOC and reviews. It appears it is also a great resource and probably has more material than this book. If you are not on a shoe string budget, I can see why people may purchase both. My primary Agile experience is from a product owner perspective and I have very limited experience with software development. If I can pass using the Andy Crowe material, most people should be able to. I read the book twice, took the practice tests five times, and took the online practice exam five times (3 week easy paced prep time).

I passed the PMP exam at the end of 2012, and studied for several months, using a combination of books, the best of which was the Rita Mulcahy PMP Exam Prep tome. For the PMI-ACP test, I narrowed down my choices between this Andy Crowe book and the equivalent from the Rita Mulcahy Companies, authored by Mike Griffiths. I landed with this Crowe book based on cost, size and perceived difficulty of the PMI-ACP exam vs. the PMP exam. This was the only book I used to study for the PMI-ACP exam, and I did great. However, I mostly attribute this to the following: 1. The PMI-ACP exam is MUCH easier than the PMP exam 2. Real-world Agile experience is very helpful in passing the PMI-ACP exam, where it provides very little help in passing the PMP exam 3. The PMI-ACP exam asks many more basic questions that can be reflexively answered by knowing definitions alone, vs. the PMP exam, which has many more long-form, theory-based contextual questions 4. PMI-ACP exam has NO math, NO formulas and NO calculations " the PMP does This Andy Crowe book did exactly what is promised " it helped me pass on my first try which should earn it a higher rating. Why can't I give it more than three stars?

Because it has some deficiencies that need to be addressed, which are:

1. Compared to what the Rita Mulcahy book offered me for the PMP exam, this book offers only basic context help understand WHAT the exam is looking for. The Mulcahy PMP book I used was littered with references to traps to avoid, what the exam asks for, how to attack the exam, etc. This book offers only basics scattered throughout, and a basic section at the end for exam strategy.
2. It only has two 100 question tests at the end (more on that below), and NO after-chapter quizzes that ask about the content I had just completed. This was a wonderful feature of the Mulcahy PMP exam prep book, and this book sorely needs it.
3. The free InSite week-long on-line test access is VERY weak. It seems little though was given to how users would actually use the test. What do I mean? It appears powerful at first – it offers an option to select the # of questions to select, and sets a timer based on the questions chosen – but after selecting a test with 40 questions, finishing it, then starting up another test with 35 questions, I found close to half of the questions were repeats from the earlier test. I setup a 3rd test, and found very few unique new questions to answer. It is like there is only one 100 question test, and all questions were pulled from it. How disappointing.
4. This book is in need of another pass by an editor. It has basic spelling mistakes throughout (things a simple spell check or a single-pass reading session would catch), too much white space bordering each page, and some oddly-placed words that seemed to have been missed from the draft copies to the final version (see “Timeboxing” in the Glossary “you™” I see what I mean).
5. An extension of #4 above, but deserving of a separate mention – Sample Test 1 has 100 questions, numbered 1-100, and the equivalent answers, numbers 1-100 in the answer section, BUT Sample Test 2 has 101 questions, numbered 100-200, and only 100 answers in the answer section, numbered 101-200. Why give 101 questions but only 100 answers? Question 100 doesn’t exist in the answer section – again, where is the editor on this?
6. This might have been a vagary related to my test, but based on my testing experience this book lacks sufficient detail or attention to Lean and XP, and this book does not cover nearly thoroughly enough the following areas – all of which I had three or more questions on in the exam, and felt a little lost based on what this book taught me:
  - a. Rolling-Wave Planning
  - b. Continuous Integration (this was ALL OVER the test)
  - c. Value Stream Mapping
  - d. Test Driven Development (my exam asked for lots of detail here, and my studies using only this book didn’t prepare me adequately for them)
  - e. Risk (my exam was littered with questions about this)
  - f. Pareto (this was a TOTAL surprise to me)

However, even with the above criticisms, this was a concise book, and I crushed the test using only it, and about 150 notecards I created based on the book. The Glossary was very helpful, and the sample tests did a good job prepping me for the actual test. Plus, at the time I bought it on , it

was \$40 cheaper than the Griffith's version that probably had much more content. That mattered to me. So, I give it three stars. Thoughts? Am I overly critical?

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