



State Firefighters' and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas

Texas Volunteer Firefighters' and Fire Marshals' Certification Board

PO Box 1409 ♦ Manchaca, Texas 78652-1409

www.sffma.org ♦ 512.454.3473 (phone)

INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS

FORCIBLE ENTRY FF I - 1

Force Entry into a Structure (Doors)

Subject: Fireground Operations

NFPA 1001 4.3.4

REFERENCE

Force entry into a structure, given personal protective equipment, tools, and an assignment, so that the tools are used as designed, the barrier is removed, and the openings is in a safe condition and ready for entry. (4.3.4)

OBJECTIVE

The firefighter trainee shall force entry into a structure through doors, so that the tools are used as designed, the barrier is removed, and the openings is in a safe condition and ready for entry.

INSTRUCTIONS: Procedures for achieving the objectives

Given a selection of forcible entry tools, you shall identify, select and safely carry the correct tool(s) appropriate for the type of door for which you will force entry. You shall then simulate the correct method of forcing entry into a structure through the door. You will begin on my instruction to start. The skill will end when you state to me that you have completed all the identified steps. Do you understand these instructions?

PREPARATION & EQUIPMENT:

Pry bar
Halligan tool
Pick-head axe
Flat-head axe
Pike pole
Hydraulic extrication tool
K-tool
PPE appropriate for the skill



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INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS

FORCIBLE ENTRY FF I - 1

Force Entry into a Structure (Doors)

Trainee: _____

Department: _____

The firefighter trainee shall force entry into a structure through doors, so that the tools are used as designed, the barrier is removed, and the openings is in a safe condition and ready for entry. (4.3.4)			
Doors that open toward the firefighter	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. <i>Correctly verbalizes the type of door</i>	1		
b. Selects the proper tool(s)	1		
c. Inserts the blade of the tool between the door and jamb near the lock	1		
d. Forces the blade in and against the rabbet or stop	1		
e. Pries the tool bar away from the door to move the door and jamb apart	1		
f. Pulls or pries the door open with another tool until the lock clears the keeper	1		
g. Performs skill in a safe and proficient manner, per AHJ	1		
TOTAL POINTS:		7	

Points needed to pass: 5

Doors that open away from the firefighter where stops are used	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. <i>Correctly verbalizes the type of door</i>	1		
b. Selects the proper forcible entry tool(s)	1		
c. Bumps the cutting edge of the tool against the stop to break the paint or varnish.	1		
d. Loosens the stop at the lock or removes the lock completely	1		
e. Forces the blade between the door and jamb	1		
f. Makes initial pry after blade is inserted at least half way	1		
g. With full bite, pries the door away from the jamb	1		
h. Performs skill in a safe and proficient manner, per AHJ	1		
TOTAL POINTS:		8	

Points needed to pass: 6

Doors that open away from the firefighter and have a rabbet jamb	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. <i>Correctly verbalizes the type of door</i>	1		
b. Selects the proper forcible entry tool(s)	1		
c. Places the blade of the tool flat against the door and inserts the blade (or tool edge) between the rabbet and the door	1		



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d. Makes short pries with the first tool to spread the jamb	1		
e. Works the blade of the second tool between the door and the jamb, hammering the blade well into the opening	1		
f. Pries the door away from the jamb until the bolt passes the keeper	1		
g. Performs skill in a safe and proficient manner, per AHJ	1		
TOTAL POINTS:	7		

Points needed to pass: 5

Door opened through the lock	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. Identifies the type of lock	1		
b. Selects the correct tool (K-tool) to open the lock	1		
c. Forces the K-tool into the correct position	1		
d. Inserts the prying tool into the metal loop of the K-tool	1		
e. Pries the cylinder from the door (using the K-tool as a fulcrum)	1		
f. Inserts the key into the hold made by the removed cylinder	1		
g. Operates the locking bolt by manipulating/rotating to the open position	1		
h. Performs skill in a safe and proficient manner, per AHJ	1		
TOTAL POINTS:	8		

Points needed to pass: 6

Sliding Door	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. Chooses the correct tool(s)	1		
b. Inserts the blade between the jamb and the door at the lock	1		
c. Pries the door away from the jamb	1		
d. <i>Verbalizes if the patio door is locked or blocked with a bar, the firefighter trainee should try another entrance or break the glass</i>	1		
e. Performs skill in a safe and proficient manner, per AHJ	1		
TOTAL POINTS:	5		

Points needed to pass: 4



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Overhead Door	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. Chooses the correct tool(s)	1		
b. Locates the lock	1		
c. If possible, breaks the panel and reaches in to unlock the door or pulls the manual door release on a garage door opener	1		
d. Pries up on the door at the bottom	1		
e. Once the door is raised, blocks the door open	1		
f. Performs skill in a safe and proficient manner, per AHJ	1		
TOTAL POINTS:	6		

Points needed to pass: **4**

For All Tools	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. Uses all tools safely	1		
TOTAL POINTS:	1		

Points needed to pass: **1**

Evaluator/Candidate Comments:

Instructor's Signature

Date



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INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS

FORCIBLE ENTRY FF I - 2

Force Entry into a Structure (Windows)

Subject: Fireground Operations

NFPA 1001 4.3.4

REFERENCE

Force entry into a structure, given personal protective equipment, tools, and an assignment, so that the tools are used as designed, the barrier is removed, and the openings is in a safe condition and ready for entry. (4.3.4)

OBJECTIVE

The firefighter trainee shall force entry into a structure through windows, so that the tools are used as designed, the barrier is removed, and the openings is in a safe condition and ready for entry.

INSTRUCTIONS: Procedures for achieving the objectives

Given a selection of forcible entry tools, you shall identify, select and safely carry the correct tool(s) appropriate for the type of window for which you will force entry. You shall then simulate the correct method of forcing entry into a structure through the window. You will begin on my instruction to start. The skill will end when you state to me that you have completed all the identified steps. Do you understand these instructions?

PREPARATION & EQUIPMENT

Pry bar

Halligan tool

Pick-head axe

Flat-head axe

Pike pole

Hydraulic extrication tool

K-tool

PPE appropriate for the skill



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INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS

FORCIBLE ENTRY FF I - 2

Force Entry into a Structure (Windows)

Trainee: _____

Department: _____

The firefighter trainee shall force entry into a structure through a window, so that the tools are used as designed, the barrier is removed, and the openings is in a safe condition and ready for entry (4.3.4)

Checkrail Windows	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. Chooses the correct tool(s)	1		
b. Locates the locking device	1		
c. Pries up on the lower sash from the center	1		
d. If this fails or the window is of metal construction, breaks the glass to unlock window	1		
e. Performs skill in a safe and proficient manner, per AHJ	1		
TOTAL POINTS:	5		

Points needed to pass: 4

Casement Windows	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. Chooses the correct tool(s)	1		
b. Breaks the lowest pane of glass	1		
c. Cuts or forces the screen	1		
d. Unlocks the window	1		
e. Operates the crank(s)	1		
f. Completely removes the screen	1		
g. Performs skill in a safe and proficient manner, per AHJ	1		
TOTAL POINTS:	7		

Points needed to pass: 5

Projected Windows	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. Chooses the correct tool(s)	1		
b. Breaks the lowest pane of glass	1		
c. Unlocks the window	1		
d. Operates the crank(s)	1		
e. Performs skill in a safe and proficient manner, per AHJ	1		
TOTAL POINTS:	5		

Points needed to pass: 4



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Awning or Jalousie Windows	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. Chooses the correct tool(s)	1		
b. Removes the necessary slats of glass to gain entry	1		
c. Verbalizes another opening should be located, if possible	1		
d. Performs skill in a safe and proficient manner, per AHJ	1		
TOTAL POINTS:	4		

Points needed to pass: 3

All Windows	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. Carries and uses all tools safely	1		
TOTAL POINTS:	1		

Points needed to pass: 1

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INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS

FORCIBLE ENTRY FF I - 3

Force Entry into a Structure (Walls)

Subject: Fireground Operations

NFPA 1001 4.3.4

REFERENCE

Force entry into a structure, given personal protective equipment, tools, and an assignment, so that the tools are used as designed, the barrier is removed, and the opening is in a safe condition and ready for entry. (4.3.4)

OBJECTIVE

The firefighter trainee shall force entry into a structure through walls, so that the tools are used as designed, the barrier is removed, and the openings is in a safe condition and ready for entry.

INSTRUCTIONS: Procedures for achieving the objectives

Given a selection of forcible entry tools, you shall identify, select and safely carry the correct tool(s) appropriate for the type of wall for which you will force entry. You shall then simulate the correct method of forcing entry into a structure through the wall. You will begin on my instruction to start. The skill will end when you state to me that you have completed all the identified steps. Do you understand these instructions?

PREPARATION & EQUIPMENT

Pry bar

Halligan tool

Pick-head axe

Flat-head axe

Pike pole

Hydraulic extrication tool

K-tool

PPE appropriate for the skill



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INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS

FORCIBLE ENTRY FF I - 3

Force Entry into a Structure (Walls)

Trainee: _____

Department: _____

The firefighter trainee shall force entry into a structure through walls, so that the tools are used as designed, the barrier is removed, and the openings is in a safe condition and ready for entry. (4.3.4)

Masonry Walls	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. Chooses the correct tool(s)	1		
b. Correctly uses the forcible entry tool	1		
c. Performs skill in a safe and proficient manner, per AHJ	1		
TOTAL POINTS:	3		

Points needed to pass: 2

Metal Walls	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. Chooses the correct tool(s)	1		
b. Sounds for studs	1		
c. Cuts along studs or other supports	1		
d. Watches for electrical wiring and pipes in the walls	1		
e. After cuts are made, folds the metal back out of the way	1		
f. Performs skill in a safe and proficient manner, per AHJ	1		
TOTAL POINTS:	6		

Points needed to pass: 4

Wood Frame Walls	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. Chooses the correct tool(s)	1		
b. Removes siding	1		
c. Sounds for studs	1		
d. Watches for electrical wiring and pipes in the walls	1		
e. Cuts along studs	1		
f. Performs skill in a safe and proficient manner, per AHJ	1		
TOTAL POINTS:	6		

Points needed to pass: 4



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Partition Walls	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. Chooses the correct tool(s)	1		
b. Opens the partition as to the type of materials above	1		
c. Performs skill in a safe and proficient manner, per AHJ	1		
TOTAL POINTS:	3		

Points needed to pass: 2

For All Walls	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. Carries and uses all tools safely	1		
TOTAL POINTS:	1		

Points needed to pass: 1

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INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS

FORCIBLE ENTRY FF I - 4

Demonstrate Hand and Power Tools Used for Forcible Entry

Subject: Fireground Operations

NFPA 1001 4.3.4

REFERENCE

Force entry into a structure, given personal protective equipment, tools, and an assignment, so that the tools are used as designed, the barrier is removed, and the opening is in a safe condition and ready for entry. (4.3.4)

OBJECTIVE

The firefighter trainee shall force entry into a structure using hand and power tools, so that the tools are used as designed, the barrier is removed, and the openings is in a safe condition and ready for entry.

INSTRUCTIONS - procedures for achieving the objective

You will have at least three hand tools and one power tool for this skill. You will safely operate each of the tools for a total of four evaluations. You will be given a scenario by the examiner that will utilize each one of the tools used. You must demonstrate the use of the tool and verbalize any special safety procedures with each tool to fulfill the requirements of the evolution. You will begin on my instruction to start. The skill will end when you state to me that you have completed all the identified steps. Do you understand these instructions?

PREPARATION & EQUIPMENT

Four (4) hand tools from the following:	One (1) power tool from the following (may be gas or electric):
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• flat-head axe• pick-head axe• pike pole• halligan tool• spanner wrench• crow bar / pry bar• hand saw• sledge hammer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• hydraulic extrication spreaders• hydraulic extrication shears• chain saw• gas circular saw (K-12)

PPE appropriate for the skill



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INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS

FORCIBLE ENTRY FF I - 4

Demonstrate Hand and Power Tools Used for Forcible Entry

Trainee: _____

Department: _____

The firefighter trainee shall force entry into a structure using hand and power tools, so that the tools are used as designed, the barrier is removed, and the openings is in a safe condition and ready for entry. (4.3.4)

Tool #1: _____	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. Chooses the correct tool to accomplish the skill	1		
b. Inspects the tool before use to ensure its condition	1		
c. Ensures that all people are out of the work area	1		
d. Correctly uses the proper tool	1		
e. <i>Verbalizes and demonstrates special safety procedures with each tool</i>	1		
f. Performs skill in a safe and proficient manner, per AHJ	1		
TOTAL POINTS:	6		

Points needed to pass: 4

Tool #2: _____	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. Chooses the correct tool to accomplish the skill	1		
b. Inspects the tool before use to ensure its condition	1		
c. Ensures that all people are out of the work area	1		
d. Correctly uses the proper tool	1		
e. <i>Verbalizes and demonstrates special safety procedures with each tool</i>	1		
f. Performs skill in a safe and proficient manner, per AHJ	1		
TOTAL POINTS:	6		

Points needed to pass: 4

Tool #3: _____	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. Chooses the correct tool to accomplish the skill	1		
b. Inspects the tool before use to ensure its condition	1		
c. Ensures that all people are out of the work area	1		
d. Correctly uses the proper tool	1		
e. <i>Verbalizes and demonstrates special safety procedures with each tool</i>	1		
f. Performs skill in a safe and proficient manner, per AHJ	1		
TOTAL POINTS:	6		

Points needed to pass: 4



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INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS

Tool #4: _____	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. Chooses the correct tool to accomplish the skill	1		
b. Inspects the tool before use to ensure its condition	1		
c. Ensures that all people are out of the work area	1		
d. Correctly uses the proper tool	1		
e. <i>Verbalizes and demonstrates special safety procedures with each tool</i>	1		
f. Performs skill in a safe and proficient manner, per AHJ	1		
TOTAL POINTS:	6		

Points needed to pass: 4

Evaluator/Candidate Comments:

Instructor's Signature

Date