

Cert Exam Checklist

Security+, CySA+, CISSP, GSEC and most other IT certification exams



6 WEEKS OUT

- ☐ Download the official exam objectives and confirm the exam code/version you will sit.
- ☐ Check if your version retires before your target date. Plan for the new one if so.
- ☐ Take a baseline practice test and list your three weakest domains.
- ☐ Book a date. A booked exam beats an open-ended plan.

2 WEEKS OUT

- ☐ Practice tests should be stable at or above your target, not one lucky score.
- ☐ Review every miss by objective, not by question.
- ☐ Rehearse performance-based or lab questions with a timer.
- ☐ Read the testing provider's rules: ID, breaks, what is allowed on the desk.

ONLINE PROCTORING (IF TESTING FROM HOME)

- ☐ Run the system check on the exact computer and network you will use.
- ☐ Clear the desk and walls; close other apps; one monitor only.
- ☐ Make sure the name on your ID matches your registration exactly.

EXAM DAY

- ☐ Arrive or check in 30 minutes early with your ID.
- ☐ Flag long questions and come back; do not let one item eat your time.
- ☐ Watch the clock at the halfway mark.

AFTER THE EXAM

- ☐ Save your score report and certification ID.
- ☐ Note your renewal date and continuing-education requirement in your calendar.
- ☐ Add the cert to your resume and LinkedIn the same day.

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