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Text and Practice Exam







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Lesson

Modeling and Materials

This lesson addresses the following certification exam questions:

- Create and Modify Architectural Components This includes walls, curtain walls, roofs, floor, ceilings, stairs, railings, and columns. Revit 2025 has updated how walls can interact, so I have added some exercises to help you understand the changes.
- Create, Configure and Apply Materials Understand how to create a custom material, how to apply a material to a family and how to use the Split Face and Paint tools
- Configure Rooms Modify room parameters and understand how to assign room boundaries
- 3D Parametric Families Understand how to select the correct template when creating a family, how reference lines and planes are used to control geometry, how to manage visibility/graphic overrides, how nested families operate, how to define and leverage parameters
- Topography Revit 2025 has updated how topography is created and modified. However, the exam may still use older terminology and methods. You need to be familiar with toposurfaces and toposolids. You also need to know how to create topography from a linked file.
- Model Groups Demonstrate how to create and modify model groups

Users should be able to understand the difference between a hosted and non-hosted component. A hosted component is a component that must be placed or constrained to another element. For example, a door or window is hosted by a wall. You should be able to identify what components can be hosted by which elements. Walls are non-hosted. Whether or not a component is hosted is defined by the template used for creating the component. A wall, floor, ceiling or face can be a host.

Some components are level-based, such as furniture, site components, plumbing fixtures, casework, roofs and walls. When you insert a level-based component, it is constrained to that level and can only be moved within that infinite plane.

Components must be loaded into a project before they can be placed. Users can pre-load components into a template, so that they are available in every project.

Users should be familiar with how to use Element and Type Properties of components in order to locate and modify information.

There are three kinds of families in Revit Architecture:

- system families
- loadable families
- in-place families

System families are walls, ceilings, stairs, floors, etc. These are families that can only be created by using an existing family, duplicating, and redefining. These families are loaded into a project using a project template. You can copy system families from one project to another using the Transfer Project Standards tool.

Loadable families are external files. These include doors, windows, furniture, and plants.

In-place families are components that are created inside of a project and are unique to that project.



Revit elements are separated into three different types of elements: Model, Datum and View-specific. Users are expected to know if an element is model, datum or view specific.

Model elements are broken down into categories. A category might be a wall, window, door, or floor. If you look in the Project Browser, you will see a category called Families.

If you expand the category, you will see the families for each category in the current project. Each family may contain multiple types.



Every Revit file is considered a Project. A Revit project consists of the Project Environment, components, and views. The Project Environment is managed in the Project Browser.



There may be one question on the exam asking you to describe the hierarchy of elements in a Revit project.

Elements are organized by Category, then Family, then Type, then Instance. This is easier to visualize if you look in the Project Browser.

If you look in the Visibility/Graphics Overrides dialog, elements are divided into Model Categories and Annotation Categories.

You should be able to identify whether an object is a model element or an annotation element.

One way to think of it is that model elements are actual physical items. If you walk through a building, you can see a door or column or floor. These are all model elements. If you walk through a building, you don't see door tags, grids, or level lines. These are annotation elements.

Walls

Users will need to be familiar with the different parameters in walls. The user should also know which options are applied to walls and when those options are available.

Walls are system families. They are project-specific. This means the wall definition is only available in the active project. You can use Transfer Project Standards or Copy and Paste to copy a wall definition from one project to another.

On the Professional exam, you may be shown an image of a wall and asked to identify different wall properties.

Just as roofs, floors, and ceilings can consist of multiple horizontal layers, walls can consist of more than one vertical layer or region.

You can modify a wall type to define the structure of vertically compound walls using layers or regions.

Revit has several different wall types: Basic, Compound, Stacked, and Curtain. Expect one question on Basic walls, one question on Stacked walls, and one question on Curtain walls.

A Basic Wall is just what it sounds like, the standard "out of the box" wall style. This wall type may have several layers. For example, a brick exterior wall with a brick exterior layer, an air gap layer, a stud layer, an insulation layer, and a gypsum board layer.

A Compound wall is similar to a Basic wall. It also has layers, but one or more layers is divided into one or more regions, with each region being assigned a different material—for example, a wall that has an exterior layer that has concrete at the bottom and brick at the top.

A Stacked wall is two or more basic and/or compound walls that are stacked on top of each other. While Basic and Compound walls have a uniform thickness or width defined by the layers, a Stacked wall can have a variable thickness or width.

A Curtain wall is defined by a curtain grid. Mullions can be placed at the grid lines. Panels are placed in the spaces between the grid lines.



Wall Options

Drawing Name: **basic_plan.rvt** Estimated Time to Completion: 10 Minutes

Scope

Exploring the different wall options

Solution



Activate the **Ground Floor** floor plan.





9. Close the file without saving.

Attaching Walls

After placing a wall, you can override its initial top and base constraints by attaching its top or base to another element in the same vertical plane. By attaching a wall to another element, you avoid the need to manually edit the wall profile when the design changes.

The other element can be a floor, a roof, a ceiling, a reference plane, or another wall that is directly above or below. The height of the wall then increases or decreases as necessary to conform to the boundary represented by the attached element.

You can detach walls from elements as well. If you want to detach selected walls from all other elements at once, click Detach All on the Options Bar.

Exercise 1-2

Attaching Walls

Drawing Name: **Attach.rvt** Estimated Time to Completion: 10 Minutes

Scope

Create a wall section view. Attach a wall to a roof or floor.

Solution



Go to the **View** ribbon. Select the **Section** tool.



Set the view type to Wall Section.





Walls (1)	~ 🗄 E
Constraints	
Location Line	Wall Centerline
Base Constraint	Level 1
Base Offset	0' 0"
Base is Attached	
Base Extension Distance	0'0"
Top Constraint	Up to level: Level 2
Unconnected Height	9' 10 7/64"
Top Offset	0' 0"

Note that the Top Constraint and Unconnected Height values did not change.

Exercise 1-3

Stacked Walls

Drawing Name: Footing.rvt

Estimated Time to Completion: 10 Minutes

Scope

Defining a stacked wall.

A stacked wall uses more than one wall type. Stacked walls may have varying widths.

1.	Den Footing.rvt.	
2.	W Suructural manning Walls Basic Wall Exterior - Brick on Mtl. Stud Footing 20" Retaining - 12" Concrete @ Curtain Wall	In the Project Browser, locate the Walls family category. Expand the Stacked wall section.
	Stacked Wall Concrete with Footing Exterior - Brick Over CMU w Metal Stud	Select the Concrete with Footing wall type.
3.	Podurig 20 Retaining - 1 Type Properties Stacked Wall Stacked Wall Exterior - Brick Over CMU w Metal Stud	Right click and select Type Properties .
4.	Type Parameters Parameter Value Construction Structure Edit	Select Edit next to Structure.
5.	Insert Select the Insert	button.
6.	Name Height Top Base Flip 1 Footing 20" 0' 9" 0' 0" 0' 0" 0' 0" 2 Retaining - 12" Variable 0' 0" 0' 0" 0' 0" 0' 0"	Set the type to Footing 20' for Layer 1. Set the Height to 9".
		1 11

Note the Retaining – 12" Concrete wall is set to a Variable Height.



Exercise 1-4

Placing a Cut in a Wall

Drawing Name: walls.rvt

Estimated Time to Completion: 20 Minutes

Scope

Placing a horizontal or vertical cut in a wall using Reveal. Creating a cut in a wall using Edit Profile.





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Draw

Set the Top Constraint to **TOP OF PARAPET**.

Set the Top Offset to **0**".

Select the **Rectangle** tool from the Draw panel.



Select the upper left corner as the first point of the green rectangle and the lower right corner as the second point of the green rectangle.

Exit out of the Wall command.

The lines should be aligned to the exterior side of the walls.



Set the Detail Level to Medium.

9.

6.

Select a wall.



Note if the exterior side of the wall is oriented correctly. If it needs to be re-oriented, use the Flip Arrows to position it correctly.



- 11. Select the South wall. Edit Profile on the ribbon.
- 12. Instruction walls > Edit P

Select the Line tool from the Draw Panel.

13.



Start the line using the endpoint located to the left of Grid 2.

Draw the line vertically and select an endpoint above Level 2.

14.



Drag the mouse to the left to place a horizontal line and click outside the building to select the endpoint for the horizontal line.

Exit the line command.



Your profile should look like this.



Draw

22.



Start the line using the end point located below the Roof level near Grid C.

Draw a horizontal line across Grid B.





You can see the opening in the wall that was created.



32.

33.



Select the reveal so it is highlighted.

Notice there is a grip located on each end of the reveal.

Drag the top end of the reveal to the intersection of Grid 3 and Roof Level.



Drag the bottom end of the reveal to the intersection of Grid 3 and Level 2.





You can see the reveal.

Close without saving.

Curtain Walls

A curtain wall is any exterior wall that is attached to the building structure and which does not carry the floor or roof loads of the building. Like walls, curtain walls are system families.

In common usage, curtain walls are often defined as thin, usually aluminum-framed walls containing in-fills of glass, metal panels, or thin stone. When you draw the curtain wall, a single panel is extended the length of the wall. If you create a curtain wall that has automatic curtain grids, the wall is subdivided into several panels.

In a curtain wall, grid lines define where the mullions are placed. Mullions are the structural elements that divide adjacent window units. You can modify a curtain wall by selecting the wall and right-clicking to access a context menu. The context menu provides several choices for manipulating the curtain wall, such as selecting panels and mullions.

Curtain Walls contains most properties of a basic wall. They have bottom and top constraints and their profile can be modified.

CURTAIN GRIDS

Curtain grids are divisions created on the walls. These divisions can be horizontal or vertical. Curtain grids can be placed in floor plan, elevations, and 3D views.

MULLIONS

Mullions are elements that can be created on each curtain grid segment, as well as on each curtain wall extremity.

CURTAIN PANELS

Curtain panels are rectangular elements located between each curtain grid.

Exercise 1-5

Curtain Walls

Drawing Name: linear_curtain_wall.rvt

Estimated Time to Completion: 30 Minutes

Scope

Placing a Curtain Walls Adding and removing Curtain Wall Grids Adding a Curtain Wall Door Adding and removing mullions















28.



Change the Detail Level to **Fine** so you can see the door hardware.

29. Mullion

Select the Mullion tool from the ribbon.

The placement of mullions is determined by curtain grids. You cannot place a mullion without a curtain grid.





1-33

Exercise 1-6

Embedded Curtain Walls

Drawing Name: embedded curtain wall.rvt

Estimated Time to Completion: 20 Minutes

Scope

Placing a Curtain Wall inside an existing wall Adding and removing Curtain Wall Grids Adding a Curtain Wall Door Adding and removing mullions

Solution



Activate Level 1 Floor Plan.

We are going to embed a curtain wall in the indicated south wall.





Select the **Wall** tool from the Architecture ribbon.

3. Properties × Curtain Wall Exterior Glazing New Walls Select the **Curtain Wall: Exterior Glazing** from the Type Selector.

Click Edit Type.

4. Enable Automatically Embed. Type Parameters Parameter Value Automatically Embed System Panel : Glazed Curtain Panel in Conditio Vertical Grid Continu Set the Curtain Panel to System Panel: Glazed. Set the Join Condition to Vertical Grid Continuous. Under Vertical Grid: 5. Vertical Grid None Layout Set the Layout to **None**. Spacing 2'0" Adjust for Mullion Size Horizontal Grid Under Horizontal Grid: Layout None 4'0" Set the Layout to **None**. Spacing Adjust for Mullion Size Vertical Mullio Set the Vertical and Horizontal Mullions to None. Interior Type None Border 1 Type None Border 2 Type None Click **OK**. Horizontal Mulli Interior Type None Border 1 Type None Border 2 Type None 6. Properties × In the Properties palette: Curtain Wall Exterior Glazing Set the Base Constraint to LEVEL 1. ✓ 🔠 Edit Type New Walls Set the Base Offset to 2' 8". Constraints 2 4 Base Constraint LEVEL 1 Set the Top Constraint to LEVEL 1. Base Offset 2' 8" Base is Attached Set the Top Offset to 8' 8". Up to level: LEVEL 1 Top Constraint Unconnected Heigh Top Offset 8' 8" 7. Set the start point at 2' 6" to the right of Grid 2. 24 Nearest

2' - 6"

5

С

8.

Set the end point at Grid 5.

ESC to exit the command.



L	East
[North
[South
····[West

Switch to a South Elevation.

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				_

If the curtain wall doesn't appear properly, return to the Level 1 floor plan and check that the curtain wall is oriented properly using the flip arrows.







20. If the embedded curtain wall does not create an opening in the south wall, select the south wall, click Edit Profile and then place a rectangle at the location of the curtain wall.

Save as *ex1-6.rvt*.

Auto Join Walls

Revit 2025 introduces the ability to join two adjacent walls into a single wall. Once walls are joined using the new Auto Join tool, doors and windows can be added to the walls. If a door or windows are added, it will cut both walls. Auto Join cannot be used with curtain walls or tapered walls.



Auto Join Walls

Drawing Name: **Auto Join.rvt** Estimated Time to Completion: 15 Minutes

Scope

Using Auto Join to join two walls Adding a Door to a joined wall









Replace the missing mullions.

Save as *ex1-7.dwg*.

Roofs

17.

Roofs are system families. Roofs can be created from a building footprint, using an extrusion, and from a mass instance (converting a face to a roof).

Roof by footprint

- 2D closed-loop sketch of the roof perimeter
- Created when you select walls or draw lines in plan view
- Created at level of view in which it was sketched
- Height is controlled by Base Height Offset property
- Openings are defined by additional closed loops
- Slopes are defined when you apply a slope parameter to sketch lines

Roof by extrusion

- Open-loop sketch of the roof profile
- Created when you use lines and arcs to <u>sketch</u> the profile in an elevation view
- Height is controlled by the location of the sketch in elevation view
- Depth is calculated by Revit based on size of sketch, unless you specify <u>start and</u> <u>end points</u>.

Roofs are defined by material layers, similar to walls.

Exercise 1-8

Creating a Roof by Footprint

Drawing Name: **i_roofs.rvt** Estimated Time to Completion: 10 Minutes

Scope

Create a roof.







10. Close without saving.

Exercise 1-9 **Creating a Roof by Extrusion**

Drawing Name: i_roofs_extrusion.rvt

Estimated Time to Completion: 30 Minutes

Scope

Create a roof by extrusion. Modify a roof.

1.	□ 3D Views	Activate the 3D v	iew.
2.	Architecture Structure ify Wall Door Window	Systems Insert Annotate	Activate the Architecture ribbon. Select Roof by Extrusion under the Build panel.
3. 4.	Specify a new Work Plane Name Reference Pick a plane Roof Reference Level and Offs Level: Upper Roof Offset: 0' 0"	et S C C C C C C C C C C C C C	nable Name . elect Roof Shape from the list of eference planes. lick OK . elect Upper Roof from the list. lick OK .
		OK Cancel	

5.	Select the Show tool from the Work Plane panel. Work Plane Work Plane
6.	Right click on the ViewCube's ring. Select Orient to a Plane .
	Go Home Home
	Save View
	Lock to Selection
	Set Current View as Home
	Set Front to View
	✓ Show Compass
	Orient to View
	Orient to a Direction
	Orient to a Plane
7.	Specify an Orientation Plane Enable Name. Image: Name Reference Plane : Roof Shape Pick a plane Pick a plane
8.	Draw Work Pla Draw Draw Select the Start-End-Radius Arc tool from the Draw panel.
9.	
	Draw an arc over the building as shown.









35. Close without saving.

Exercise 1-10 Add Split Lines to a Roof

Drawing Name: Split Lines Roof.rvt

Estimated Time to Completion: 20 Minutes

Scope

Create a roof by footprint. Modify a roof using split lines.



