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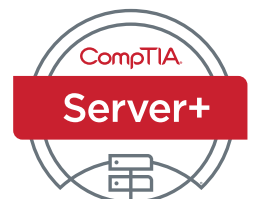
means more
automation

SKO-005 vs SKO-004 Exam Objectives Comparison

Organizations, now more than ever, are taking a second look at their IT infrastructure, investments, and strategies. As many find hybrid solutions to be more efficient and reliable, the need for skilled professionals that can support and maintain these solutions are at an all-time high.

Updates to Server+ reflect current skills relevant to job roles tasked with delivering a successful infrastructure that amplifies strategies and meets company objectives.

The updated CompTIA Server+ SKO-005 certification validates the skills necessary for server administrators and datacenter technicians to deploy, maintain, and troubleshoot servers. The refreshed objectives streamline outdated content, while ensuring a continued emphasis on the technical implementation of the job role. Additionally, new content areas emerging from data security, virtualization, and the impact of cloud solutions are included.



Exam Objectives Comparison

The content has been clarified into four broader domains (as opposed to seven in the previous exam). SKO-005 contains five fewer objectives, which represents the changing nature of the job role into a more highly focused and dedicated server administrator.

The following table aligns exam objectives from SKO-005 to SKO-004 for comparison. Skills are aligned by best match.

SKO-005	SKO-004	COMMENTS
1.1 Given a scenario, install physical hardware.	1.1 Explain the purpose and function of server form factors.	Higher cognitive level to properly assess the hands-on skills needed by today's server administrators.
1.1 Given a scenario, install physical hardware.	1.2 Given a scenario, install, configure and maintain server components.	
1.1 Given a scenario, install physical hardware.	1.3 Compare and contrast power and cooling components.	Higher cognitive level to properly assess the hands-on skills needed by today's server administrators.
1.2 Given a scenario, deploy and manage storage.	3.1 Given a scenario, install and deploy primary storage devices based on given specifications and interfaces.	
1.3 Given a scenario, perform server hardware maintenance.	2.4 Given a scenario, perform proper server maintenance techniques.	
2.1 Given a scenario, install server operating systems.	2.1 Install and configure server operating systems.	
2.2 Given a scenario, configure servers to use network infrastructure services.	5.1 Given a scenario, configure servers to use IP addressing and network infrastructure services.	
2.3 Given a scenario, configure and maintain server functions and features.	2.2 Compare and contrast server roles and requirements for each.	Higher cognitive level to address new content and hands-on server configuration.
2.4 Explain the key concepts of high availability for servers.	2.4 Given a scenario, perform proper server maintenance techniques.	Lower cognitive level to reflect the increased emphasis on high-availability of servers.
2.5 Summarize the purpose and operation of virtualization.	2.6 Explain the purpose and operation of virtualization components.	
2.6 Summarize scripting basics for server administration.		This is one of the most significant changes to the new objectives, emphasizing the importance of scripting for automation and virtualization.
2.7 Explain the importance of asset management and documentation.	2.5 Explain the importance of asset management and documentation.	
2.8 Explain licensing concepts.		New content area resulting from IaaS models and the need for continuous scalability.

SKO-005	SKO-004	COMMENTS
3.1 Summarize data security concepts.	4.5 Implement data security methods and secure storage disposal techniques.	Cognitive level change, however part of the content for the SKO-004 objectives is covered elsewhere.
3.2 Summarize physical security concepts.	4.1 Compare and contrast physical security methods and concepts.	
3.2 Summarize physical security concepts.	4.4 Implement logical access control methods based on company policy.	
3.3 Explain important concepts pertaining to identity and access management for server administration.	4.1 Compare and contrast physical security methods and concepts.	
3.4 Explain data security risks and mitigation strategies.		New content area focusing on the importance of data security and its risks to business. Highlights preventing breaches through mitigating vulnerabilities and outlining legal concerns.
3.5 Given a scenario, apply server hardening methods.	4.2 Given a scenario, apply server hardening techniques.	
3.6 Summarize proper server decommissioning concepts.		Significantly updated content area emerging from the importance of proper data security.
3.7 Explain the importance of backups and restores.	6.2 Given a scenario, implement appropriate backup techniques.	Different cognitive level for similar content to reflect changing job role.
3.8 Explain the importance of disaster recovery.	6.1 Explain the importance of disaster recovery principles.	
4.1 Explain the troubleshooting theory and methodology.	7.1 Explain troubleshooting theory and methodologies.	
4.2 Given a scenario, troubleshoot common hardware failures.	7.2 Given a scenario, effectively troubleshoot hardware problems, selecting the appropriate tools and methods.	
4.3 Given a scenario, troubleshoot storage problems.	7.5 Given a scenario, effectively troubleshoot storage problems, selecting the appropriate tools and methods.	
4.4 Given a scenario, troubleshoot common OS and software problems.	7.3 Given a scenario, effectively troubleshoot software problems, selecting the appropriate tools and methods.	

SKO-005	SKO-004	COMMENTS
4.5 Given a scenario, troubleshoot network connectivity issues.	7.4 Given a scenario, effectively diagnose network problems selecting the appropriate tools and methods.	
4.6 Given a scenario, troubleshoot security problems.	7.6 Given a scenario, effectively diagnose security issues, selecting the appropriate tools and methods.	