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Hello , As I got recently the Spring Framework professional Certification v5.0 , many colleagues asked me about the exam and how to prepare for it , so I decided that my first blog article will be about this subject.

in to be succinct and direct I will tackle these topics based on many questions I received on my social network :

What's The PIVOTAL SPRING PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION and why I should get it ?

Similar to Oracle certifications, Pivotal provides a large set of certifications to validate fundamentals skills related to working with Pivotal Spring Platform , you can find many certifications in the official site of Pivotal :

<https://pivotal.io/training/certification>





You can get more details about this certification from the official website :

<https://pivotal.io/training/certification/spring-professional-certification>

The latest Spring framework certification is Spring Professional v5.0. It is based upon the latest Spring framework version 5 .

So As developer working with Java related platforms and having a minimal few years of hands on experience , why you should pass this exam ?

Simply , getting certified would help you to :

- Find a highest paid opportunity as Spring developer
- Provides you a competitive edge over other developers
- Helps you to learn and master Spring 5 concepts like Reactive Programming and micro-service architecture.
- Being recognized as a Spring Framework expert in your current position which helps you moving on more leading technical positions.

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Can I pass it really , are there any prerequisites ?

Absolutely yes ! Just be patient and ambitious ! 😊

As I got many requests regarding certification prerequisites , I think that to ensure this exam you should :

- Be efficient in Java development (starting from JDK 1.7) .
- Have worked in professional projects based on Spring Framework ecosystem (v 4.3 or later) .
- Be able to explain the basic concept under the hood , for example , how an Application Context is initialized .
- Finally , 200 dollars to buy an exam voucher !





to say modules).

The great news is that these topics are not all required to pass the exam , multiple subjects are marked optional 😊

Please refer to this list to get **the required topic** included in the certification Exam as defined by Pivotal , I put the percentage of questions per topic in exam :

- Container (28 %)
- AOP (14 %)
- JDBC (4 %)
- Transactions (10 %)
- MVC (10 %)
- f ▶ Security (6 %)
- f ▶ REST (6 %)
- t ▶ JPA Spring Data (4 %)
- G+ ▶ Spring Boot (14 %)
- p ▶ Testing (4 %)

in give you a brief insight regarding these topics , there a list of keyword for each topic which help you define the most items you should strengthen your skill :



Search:

Spring
Framework Version 5.0





Container	application-context life-cycle of Spring beans AnnotationConfigApplicationContext FileSystemXmlApplicationContext BeanFactoryPostProcessor BeanPostProcessor ContextLoaderListener AbstractDispatcherServletInitializer @ContextConfiguration @RunWith(SpringRunner.class) @SpringJUnitConfig registerShutdownHook, Bean Scopes @Component , @Autowired , @ComponentScan , @Qualifier , @Configuration , @Lazy , @Profile @PropertySource PropertySourcesPlaceholderConfigurer @PreDestroy , @PostConstruct ; JSR-250 Java Config , @Bean @Value("# , SpEL , StandardServletEnvironment
AspectJ	Cross cutting concern Pointcut, join point, advice, aspect, weaving JDK dynamic proxies , CGLIB proxies @Before , @AfterReturning , @After , @Around @EnableAspectJAutoProxy execution(* , within(, ProceedingJoinPoint
JDBC	DataSource , JndiDataSourceLookup JdbcTemplate callback : ResultSetExtractor , RowCallbackHandler , RowMapper batchUpdate , execute , query , queryForList , queryForMap , queryForObject , queryForRowSet , update





Transactions @Transactional

Transaction , a local and a global transaction

The transaction isolation level.

noRollbackFor , noRollbackForClassName , propagation , readOnly , rollbackFor

PlatformTransactionManager?

@EnableTransactionManagement

declarative transaction management

MVC MVC Design Pattern

DispatcherServlet

web application context vs ApplicationContext



Spring bean scopes , default scope

@Controller



@RequestMapping, @RequestParam ,@PathVariable ,

Controller return types



web.xml



servlet 3 vs servlet 2 specification

in security

Authentication , Authorization , Cross-Cutting Concern

Spring Security Web Infrastructure



DelegatingFilterProxy , FilterChainProxy , SecurityFilterChain,

SecurityContext ,GrantedAuthority ,UserDetails ,UserDetailsService

Request Matcher , antMatcher vs mvcMatcher , Password Hashing , Salting

@EnableGlobalMethodSecurity ,@PreAuthorized and@RolesAllowed , JSR-250

REST

Resource

HTTP verbs : POST, GET, PUT, PATCH, and DELETE

REST Secure , HTTP Method Idempotent /safe

REST scalable , interoperable

HttpMessageConverter , stateless

@RestController ,@RequestMapping , @ResponseBody , @ResponseStatus

spring-boot-starter-web , RestTemplate





JPA Spring Data `DataSource , EmbeddedDatabase
spring.datasource.jndi-name
PlatformTransactionManager
ORM , PersistenceContext , EntityManager , @Entity
Spring Data repository, @EnableJpaRepositories
find(First[count])By[property expression][
@Query`

Spring BOOT `@SpringBootApplication
spring-boot-starter-parent ,spring-boot-devtools
@Configuration , @ConfigurationProperties
Automatic configuration
@ConditionalOnClass,@ConditionalOnWebApplication
application.properties ,YAML
@SpringBootApplication , @EnableAutoConfiguration ,@EntityScan
@SpringBootConfiguration ,@LocalServerPort , @SpringBootTest ,
@WebMvcTest
Jetty`

in testing `unit test , integration test
JUNIT
@SpringJUnitConfig , @Transactional ,@ContextConfiguration
Mockito ,EasyMock
@DataJpaTest ,@WebMvcTest
@SpringBootTest
@SpringBootConfiguration`

Really I am confused 😕 ,

How you eat a whale : one bite at a time !

Dont panic my dear , we will fix together a working strategy to crack the Spring professional exam basing on your profile , if you are :

- *Junior Spring developer or an Entry Level Profile*





After that , you need to practise each topic and be patient ! , take your time before to decide to pass the exam until you feel at ease with most of mock exams questions.

- *Experienced Developer*

If you have decent work experience in Spring framework example two or three years working on real projects , you just need to **practise** others topics invoked in the previous section (I mean by practising , either on professional projects or check a great tutorial about and try to get hands on it !)

Try some mock exams / get sample questions related to exam topics .

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Could you please advise me for any related useful resources or books ?

There are a plenty of books covering Spring framework , reading a book of 500 pages seems to be boring for someones 😊 So I prefer to take another path :

total Study Guide :

Piroval provides in their website a study guide and a set of questions covering the hole scope of the exam , responses to these questions should be great ressource for you to prepare the exam , please find there a the complete list of questions :

<https://d1fto35gcffzn.cloudfront.net/academy/Spring-Professional-Certification-Study-Guide.pdf>

You can find some responses to these questions in a great free Book :

<https://leanpub.com/corespring5certificationindetail>

This book is not yet complete , when I prepared for the exam I prepared all questions of the study guide , these latter will be included in my Future Book " *Spring Professional 5 Certification Guide* " (first release Avril 2019) .

Official Documentation :





Mock exams :

<https://www.certification-questions.com/spring-dumps/core-professional-v5.0.html>

You can buy a complete mock exam from this interesting website .

Where Can I register for an exam session , how much does it cost and should / must I assist to a pivotal training session ?

I will start by a great news 😊

Pivotal training session is no more obligatory !

For since Pivotal, the company behind Spring framework made the mandatory Spring training optional



Where Can I register and how much does the exam costs ?



, you buy a voucher from Pivotal in order to pass the exam , please check this link : <https://academy.pivotal.io/confirm-course?courseid=EDU-1120-APP>



The exam costs **200 \$.**



Purchasing the Certification Exam entitles you to one (1) proctored exam attempt with our exam provider, PSI/ExamsLocal. All exams are taken online and are remotely proctored. You will receive exam registration and scheduling instructions via email once you have completed your exam purchase. Your exam must be scheduled and taken within 90 days of your exam purchase or your exam attempt will be forfeited.

For more information about the Pivotal Certification Program, please visit pivotal.io/training/certification.

Certification	Spring Professional Exam	Price: \$200.00	Add to Cart
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[Return to course list](#)

*Price is for one seat. To book a group, write to education@pivotal.io

Finally , How this exam looks like ?

This table should give you details about the exam :





Number of Questions

50 Questions

Types of Questions

1. Multiple Choice, 1 Answer
2. Multiple Choice, 1 Or More Answers

Time Limit

90 Minutes

Passing Score

76% (38 Questions)

You find samples for questions here :

<https://www.certification-questions.com/spring-dumps/core-professional-v5.0.html>

In my next articles I will prepare for you a mock exam which looks like the Pivotal one .

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od luck dears .



G+ thks for reading this post , please feel free to suggest any other questions or a subject to consider also remarks to improve this post :)



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Mohamed Ben Hassine

Hello , I am a Software Technical Leader / Lover / Speaker / Blogger / Trainer with over 9 years of experience in designing and developing financial and telecommunication large scale enterprise applications using Web / Java/JEE technologies.

Open to multi-culture customers and workplaces, I help companies and individuals build scalable Web Applications using last proved web technologies and enterprise software architectures.



Categories: SPRING FRAMEWORK

Tags: certification exam java mock professional spring test





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18 Comments



Rabeb · 24 December 2018 at 14 h 12 min



Thanks Mohamed; very interesting.



REPLY



Mohamed · 25 December 2018 at 9 h 20 min



Thank you Rabeb 😊

REPLY



SALAH EDDINE · 24 December 2018 at 23 h 32 min

This is fascinating and really well explained. Thank you!
waiting for mock exam 😊

REPLY



Mohamed · 25 December 2018 at 9 h 20 min

Welcome Salah 😊 I hope it was helpfull for you , the mock Exam is ongoing and will be delivered as soon inshAllah , Thank you

REPLY



Mootez · 25 December 2018 at 13 h 33 min





It helps so thank you

REPLY



Mohamed · 25 December 2018 at 13 h 34 min

Thank you Mootez 😊

REPLY



wiem · 25 December 2018 at 14 h 23 min

Very interesting. Thanks 😊

REPLY



Mohamed · 25 December 2018 at 14 h 24 min



Thanks for reading my post , You are welcome Wiem 😊

REPLY



Louhichi · 31 December 2018 at 22 h 20 min



Very interesting post i really appreciate your article.thks a lot



Wé need To read more and more

Happy new year and many happy returns

REPLY



Mohamed · 1 January 2019 at 13 h 28 min

Thanks Louchichi , more articles about Spring Framework ,web Dev and Java are coming soon inshAllah 😊 Happy new year for you also

REPLY



Wahid · 20 January 2019 at 15 h 00 min

Very interesting Mohamed,

REPLY



Mohamed Ben Hassine · 13 February 2019 at 9 h 39 min





Hleb Bandarenka · 12 February 2019 at 7 h 16 min

Hi, Mohammed

Thank you for your post

It is sad that you didn't write it before I have passed this exam

I just want to clarify that this exam and preparation for it will not help to understand Reactive Programming, because not exist any question on this theme

REPLY



Mohamed Ben Hassine · 13 February 2019 at 9 h 38 min

At first Congrats Hleb ! Exactly , Reactive programming is marked as optional and unfortunately it is not required for the exam , we will try to cover this topic in our Blog tungeek in order to share knowledge among developers.

Regards

G+

REPLY



Himanshu · 18 February 2019 at 13 h 20 min

Hi, Mohammed



Thank you for your post

REPLY



Mohamed Ben Hassine · 18 February 2019 at 16 h 21 min

Welcome Dear Himanshu , please let me know if your need more help or informations about the Spring exam

REPLY



Manel Guizani · 6 October 2019 at 12 h 42 min

Bravo Mohamed, une description brève qui répond à toutes mes question. Thank you

REPLY



Mohamed Ben Hassine · 14 October 2019 at 11 h 10 min



Welcome Manel , Thank you too and Good Luck for the Exam 😊



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