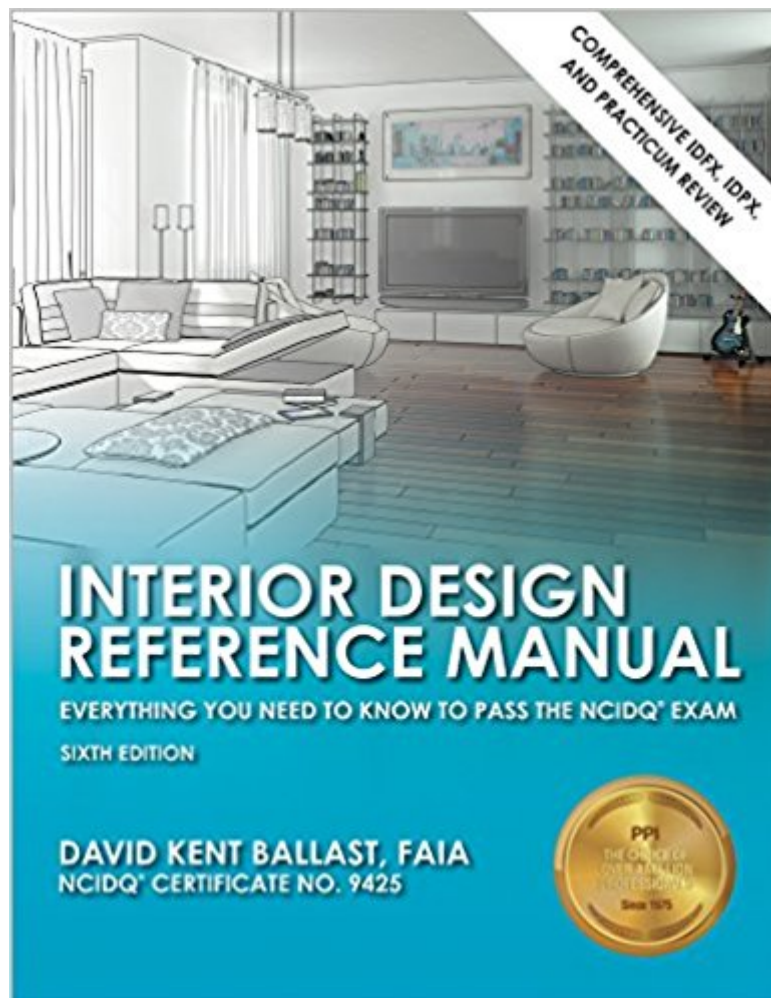




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# Interior Design Reference Manual: Everything You Need To Know To Pass The NCIDQ Exam, 6th Ed



## Synopsis

New Edition. Interior Design Reference Manual: Everything You Need to Know to Pass the NCIDQ Exam offers a comprehensive review of all NCIDQ exam content areas. What's New for the Sixth Edition Revised to focus on IDFX, IDPX, and the Interior Design Practicum. Updated to incorporate the 2012 International Building Code and 2010 ADA/ABA Accessibility Guidelines. Organized by content area, with icons that indicate which content areas are covered in each chapter. Expanded coverage of: Acoustics; Barrier-free design; Building regulations and codes; Cost estimating and budgeting; Finishes; Lighting; Means of egress; Measurement and drafting; Project management; Quartz surfacing; Seismic restraint for ceilings; Sourcing and researching manufacturer's information; Sustainable design. The two multiple-choice sections of the NCIDQ Examination have changed to a computer-based format. Use the Interior Design Reference Manual's study guidelines, exam tips, and tables to simplify your NCIDQ exam preparation.

**Exam Content Areas Covered**

Design Concepts and Programming  
Design Constraints  
Building Systems and Construction  
Research, Analysis, and Selection of Products and Details  
Communication and Documentation  
Project and Business Management

## Book Information

Paperback: 656 pages

Publisher: Professional Publications, Inc.; 6 edition (March 4, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1591264278

ISBN-13: 978-1591264279

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 1.2 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 72 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #37,348 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #3 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > Decorating & Design > Professional Reference #3 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > Decorating & Design > Lighting #7 in Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Reference > Architecture > Study & Teaching

## Customer Reviews

David Kent Ballast, FAIA, CSI, NCIDQ Certification No. 9425, owns Architectural Research Consulting, a firm offering information and management services to architects, interior designers,

and the construction industry. Mr. Ballast has taught interior construction and other courses at Arapahoe Community College for over 20 years. A licensed architect in the state of Colorado, Mr. Ballast has written many books on design topics.

Here is a reference from another review that covers this book also: I did end up buying the reference manual and the flashcards. I would definitely buy the reference manual again, but not sure the flashcards are necessary. If you study well this way, it is an ok format to drill info in, however most of them are not simple one-answer questions. The answers are lists of several points that you may understand, but will never memorize & be able to rattle off. So essentially, you just read them as a condensed (and selective) version of the book. It can be a good companion if you have lots of extra money to spend on this already incredibly expensive test. Also, I just took both multiple choice tests yesterday (IDPX & IDFX) and the amount of info I did NOT need to know was astounding. There were only a very small percentage of questions that actually referenced facts or written procedures. Most of them were crazy scenarios that you just have to use your judgment to know the "best" or "most-correct" answer. Very frustrating!! A few of the straight information questions were not anywhere in the Ballast study material. But as you know, the tests change every season and you will never know which few facts they will ask you - so you had better be familiar with all of them. Every question counts since their grading process is so crazy. To expand on this book specifically: even though it is quite expensive, it is a good thing to get since it pretty much condenses all of the information you need to know in one place. I did end up reviewing a separate code book, color theory book, ADA regulations & drafting/construction books, BUT the info in this reference manual is probably good enough to get a good handle on all of the areas you will need to know for the test. It is really good on the "theory & design concept" sections and also the Contract Administration, Bidding & Management sections. There are very specific AIA & ASID regulations/guides/sequences to follow that are not always common to everyday practice, so this book did a good job of driving a lot of the important information in. The rest of the chapters have good informational overall review on the detailed stuff (lighting, acoustics, codes, drafting, etc.) however I did find a few discrepancies and saw where they neglected to cover some more detailed scenarios that would have been too difficult to skim. Overall, I think it is enough info to pass the test (if all you needed was to know info - unfortunately it's so much more than that!) The organization in the front is great. It separates the information you need to know by each section and each test and it gives you the weighted percentages that pertain to each test section. That can help you prioritize facts and study time. I did find that the organization of the Project and Business Management stuff

was a little confusing at first. It is not chronological, but after you read it through a couple times and make your own notes, it makes sense.

This is a great book for studying for the NCIDQ exam but VERY little information has changed from previous versions. I had an old version that I bought for \$5 and thought I should get the updated one before my test. I saw very little difference. Save some money and buy an old version. I also think the book doesn't help a ton for the PRAC other than using it as a reference if you need to look up info. If you are studying for the PRAC get your hands on some practice tests. That is the only helpful way to study in my opinion. After you take a Prac practice test you will know exactly what you need to know.

OK Let's get this straight right out of the gate: I HATE that textbooks are so expensive. This one too. Now that's out of the way: so far this book is telling me everything I've needed to pass the NCIDQ. I've done the IDFX so far and am studying for the other two currently, and after seeing how the IDFX went I'm pretty confident that this will help with the other two. This book is designed for the NCIDQ. It does give tips on how to take the tests as well. There are typos, and sections that aren't explained very clearly. Some bits of information seem to contradict each other but that's most often because the descriptions have very subtle differences that take some dissecting. Even with that, this book is informative enough that I know I'll be referencing it for years after the tests have passed.

This book was required for the NCIDQ Study course (6 weeks) I took after finishing interior design school. As a new graduate, I am able to take the IDFX section right after graduation. I will be required to get work experience prior to taking the other two portions of the exam. This book was great for going over various components of the IDFX (Fundamentals) exam. This book was a great review of what I learned in school. It also was a refresher of what I had forgotten from school. Overall, this was a great book. The reason I did not give it a 5 was that the practice tests given in the class had a few questions with answers that seemed contradictory or were sometimes wrong enough our instructor said she would contact NCIDQ for clarification. I would definitely recommend this book for studying for the NCIDQ or for refreshing your knowledge of what you learned in interior design school.

Everything you need to know and more!

I passed the NCIDQ so I'd say it is a good book! Also, if you are having problems sleeping there is no need to count sheep....just start reading a chapter in bed and you'll be out in no time. On a serious note, I do suggest doing flash cards and practice tests too. If you have a local study group, go to it.

I read the book entirely and made summaries but the Exam had very different content than what the book showed. Don't think it was very useful to pass the NCIDQ exam.

Super expensive but a necessity to pass the NCIDQ.

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