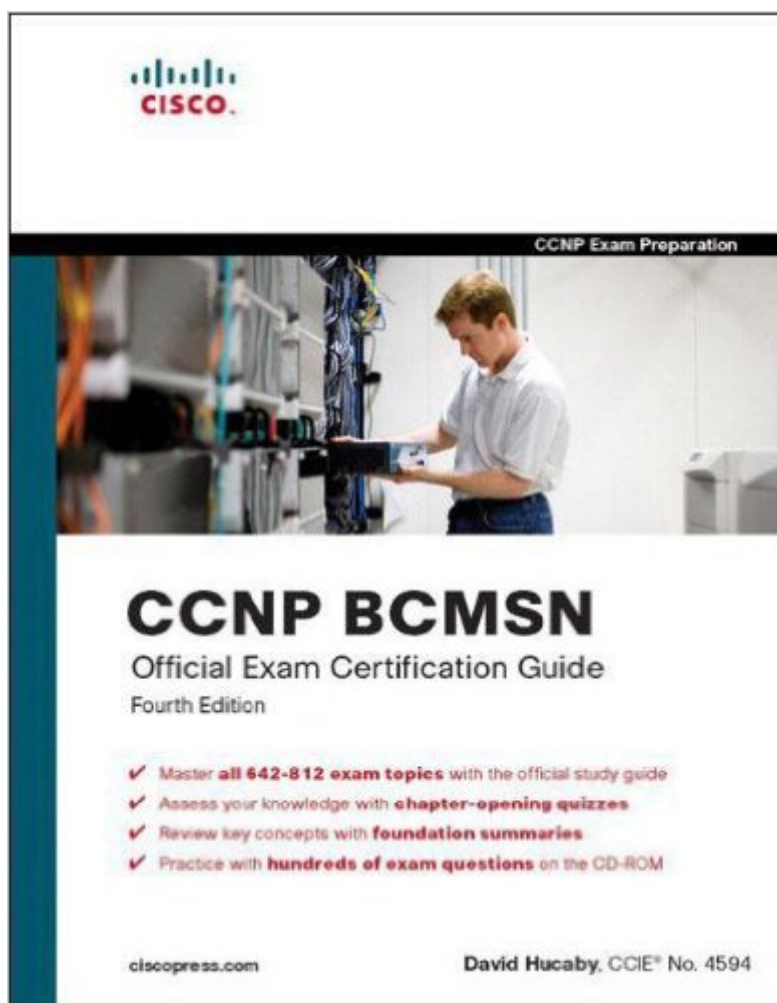


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CCNP BCMSN Official Exam Certification Guide (4th Edition)



Synopsis

CCNP BCMSN Official Exam Certification Guide Fourth Edition • Master all 642-812 exam topics with the official study guide • Assess your knowledge with chapter-opening quizzes • Review key concepts with foundation summaries • Practice with hundreds of exam questions on the CD-ROM • David Hucaby, CCIE® No. 4594 • CCNP BCMSN Official Exam Certification Guide, Fourth Edition, is a best of breed Cisco® exam study guide that focuses specifically on the objectives for the BCMSN exam. Successfully passing the BCMSN 642-812 exam certifies that you have knowledge and skills necessary to implement scalable multilayer switched networks. • CCNP BCMSN Official Exam Certification Guide, Fourth Edition, follows a logical organization of the BCMSN exam objectives. Material is presented in a concise manner, focusing on increasing readers'™ retention and recall of exam topics. Lead network engineer and consultant David Hucaby shares preparation hints and test-taking tips, helping you identify areas of weakness and improve your switching knowledge through the use of the consistent features in each chapter. • Do I Know This Already? • quizzes open each chapter and allow you to decide how much time you need to spend on each section. Exam topic lists and Foundation Summary tables make referencing easy and give you a quick refresher whenever you need it. Scenario-based exercises help you think about exam objectives in real-world situations, thus increasing recall during exam time. Challenging chapter-ending review questions help you assess your knowledge and reinforce key concepts. • The companion CD-ROM contains a powerful testing engine that enables you to focus on individual topic areas or take complete, timed exams. The assessment engine also tracks your performance and provides feedback on a module-by-module basis, presenting question-by-question remediation to the text. • Well regarded for its level of detail, assessment features, and challenging review questions and exercises, this book helps you master the concepts and techniques that will enable you to succeed on the exam the first time. • David Hucaby, CCIE® No. 4594, is a lead network engineer for a large medical environment using Cisco multilayer switching and security products. He also is an independent networking consultant focusing on Cisco-based solutions for healthcare and banking clients. • The official study guide helps you master all the topics on the BCMSN exam, including Spanning Tree Protocol concepts Virtual LAN (VLAN), VLAN trunking, and inter-VLAN routing Gateway redundancy technologies and protocols Wireless LAN topologies, components, connectivity, and standards Implementing a Cisco Unified Wireless Network Wireless client access Access layer voice concepts Preventing and mitigating attacks against switched network security • Companion CD-ROM The CD-ROM contains an electronic copy of the book and more than 200 practice questions for the BCMSN

exam, including simulation-based questions, all available in study mode, test mode, and flash card format. This volume is part of the Exam Certification Guide Series from Cisco Press®. Books in this series provide officially developed exam preparation materials that offer assessment, review, and practice to help Cisco Career Certification candidates identify weaknesses, concentrate their study efforts, and enhance their confidence as exam day nears. Category: Cisco Certification
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Customer Reviews

If you want to learn about switched networking, voice and wireless, this is an excellent text. It is well written, easy to read and understand. I especially liked the wireless section, which explained Cisco's LWAPP architecture. I am using some of the concepts in my enterprise network designs. But, the reason I bought the book was to supplement my networking experience in helping me pass the 642-812 exam. I diligently studied this book along with an older 642-811 text, took notes, reviewed the material, took the practice exams from the CD, and practiced configuring Cisco switches. This method worked well for me in the past, scoring high on most exams (this one was for recertification). For some reason Cisco has made this exam MUCH more difficult than past exams. The exam questions were much more complex than the practice questions in the book and CD. My suggestion would be to read this book, but supplement it with other material and EXTENSIVE hands

on switch configuration and analysis.

This exam certification guide is quite good. Being an exam certification guide, it is more direct than the Authorized Self Learning books. For me, I find the self-learning books to be slow and a bit verbose. This exam certification guide explains the material in a short concise way that facilitates learning. It has many examples that help to illustrate the different concepts. However, there are small errors on most of the examples. They're not critical, but they are somewhat annoying. E.g. In the diagram, switches A, B and C have addresses aaaa.aaaa.aaaa, bbbb.bbbb.bbbb, and cccc.cccc.cccc respectively. In the explanation of the diagram, the addresses are 0000.0000.0001, 0000.0000.0002, and 0000.0000.0003. So, it's not a major problem, but it does make one question the accuracy of some of the examples; especially if you are unsure of the concepts being presented. Like all certification guides, the software is a little buggy. Most of the questions have the correct solution(s). However, a few do not. This can cause problems when trying to use the software to study for the exam. Hopefully they will release an update for the software soon to correct the errors. Despite the shortcomings, I still rate this book at 5 stars because it contains good material in an easy to understand format without being excessively verbose or terse.

I am normally good with Cisco books. I was a 19 year old CCNA/CCDA and had my MCSE at the age of 20 (now 27). When I ordered this book I began reading it and I must say this book is very sloppy in its introduction to concepts to the point as to where I am needing google to formulate a better understanding of the concepts presented in this book. My BIGGEST pet peeve being the usage of words and concepts before actually introducing them. The book is in serious need of restructuring. (I am at page 280 where it refers to BackboneFast where it introduces without ANY explanation the concept of a designated bridge. There was little mention of 'designated ports' in a previous chapter). I am on chapter 6 of this book right now and already I have had to google some of the unfamiliar language they are using. For the price I am paying for this book I should be able to sit in a coffee shop or someplace far from an internet connection and expect to receive the same level of instruction. This book simply does not provide this for me. At the time of writing this I have attempted to search the index for any reference whatsoever for designated bridge. There are also concepts as they are introduced that have made me go 'UMMMM.... HUH?' for example: 'When a switch receives a BPDU from a designated switch that identified the root bridge and the designated bridge as the same switch the switch considers the BPDU an inferior BPDU'. All in all it seems like a technically sound book. I haven't wrote the test yet so it remains to be seen how useful this will be in

the grander scheme of things. It reads like a technical manual... sometimes too technical for its own good. I would have liked to see much better consistency out of its authors and a more readable style.

I studied using this book for only 3 months and I scored 825 on the exam. Great book if you already know a bit about WLANs. The wireless section doesn't give enough details about the Cisco's Unified Wireless Network and the practice questions are not a challenge.

The actual exam and the content depth of this book are in completely different worlds. The exam questions are very deep and complex while the book only superficially covers each topic and spends a great deal of time on commands which make only a minimal appearance on the actual exam. The test "simulator" questions on the included CD-ROM are simplistic and way too easy compared to the actual test which gives you a false sense of security. You will know it when you are hit on the side of the head by the real test and it will be like wow, what happened, I scored 95% or higher on the CD-ROM simulations. In addition, many of the questions on the actual test aren't even covered in the book. Believe me, I went back to the book after taking the test and the topic detail WAS NOT IN THIS BOOK. I would not waste my money on this book if you are going to use it to prep for the real test. Save your money and buy real test study material online. You will be extremely disappointed with this "study" guide.

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