

PMP®

Emergency Study Plans

The PMP® Final Stretch: Critical Plans to Pass Before the July 9,
2026 Exam Change

Pass Before July 9, 2026

PMLearning

pmlearning.org

Choose your path:

25-Day Intensive or **7-Day Fast Track**

INTRO **BEFORE YOU START**

Who These Plans Are For

⚠ NOT FOR DAY-ONE BEGINNERS

This guide assumes you have already put in the hours, understand the foundational concepts, and are weeks — or days — away from test day. If you are brand new to PMP prep, work through the full study guide first before jumping into these plans.

If that description fits you, you are in the right place. These two plans are built to aggressively target the exam's highest-weight topics so you can lock in a passing score before the July 9, 2026 exam change.

The clock is real. The exam structure changes on July 9. If you are this close, the last thing you want is to run out of time on the current format. Pick a plan, commit to it, and finish strong.

TOOLS **REQUIRED TOOLS**

What You Need to Execute These Plans

Both plans are built around two specific PMLearning resources that work together. You will need both.

01

PMP®: The Ultimate Secret Weapon

PDF eBook covering every PMP task aligned to the current ECO.

pmlearning.org/project-management-study-guides

02

The Ultimate PMP® Exam Simulator

Full-length and topic-specific practice exams with detailed explanations.

Includes the Secret Weapon eBook — both in one purchase.

pmlearning.org/pmp/premium-exam-questions

★ **One Purchase, Both Resources** — When you purchase the Exam Simulator, you will be prompted to add the Secret Weapon eBook at checkout. Most candidates grab both — it is the most complete way to follow this plan.

STRATEGY **THE SECRET WEAPON APPROACH: NOT ALL TASKS ARE EQUAL**

Most instructors treat every PMP topic with the same weight. The exam does not. To pass in the time you have left, you need to be strategic about where your attention goes. This plan divides the ECO tasks into two tiers based on how heavily they appear on the exam.

SECTION I — THE CRITICAL 13 TASKS

80%+ OF THE EXAM

These 13 tasks demand the majority of your study time. Do not move on to the next task until you are scoring 80% or higher on those specific simulator questions. No exceptions.

PROCESS DOMAIN

- Manage Risks (T3)
- Manage Changes (T10)
- Manage Schedule (T6)
- Manage Budget & Resources (T5)
- Manage Quality (T7)
- Manage Scope (T8)
- Manage Procurement (T11)

PEOPLE & BUSINESS DOMAIN

- Manage Conflict (T1)
- Lead a Team (T2)
- Build Shared Understanding (T10)
- Collaborate with Stakeholders (T9)
- Project Benefits & Value (Business T2)
- Support Org Change (Business T4)

SECTION II — THE LOW-IMPACT 22 TASKS

~20% OF THE EXAM

These are rapid-review topics. In the Secret Weapon eBook, most of these tasks take up only one to two pages each. You will cover them quickly during the review phase of each plan — do not over-invest time here.

Rule of Thumb: On Section I tasks: do not advance until you hit 80% or higher on the simulator. On Section II tasks: read once, do a quick question batch, and move on. The 80/20 rule wins exams.

A THE 25-DAY EMERGENCY PLAN

Requires 4–5 hours of dedicated study per day

This plan gives you enough time to build real mastery on the Critical 13, close any remaining gaps, run through the Low-Impact 22, and complete five full practice exams before test day. Follow it day by day without skipping.

TIMELINE	FOCUS AREA & DAILY TASK	DONE
Days 1 – 13	Section I Mastery: Read one of the Critical 13 tasks per day from the Secret Weapon. Immediately after reading, solve the corresponding simulator questions for that task. Do not advance until you hit 80% or higher.	<input type="checkbox"/>

TIMELINE	FOCUS AREA & DAILY TASK	DONE
Days 14 – 16	Section I Polish: Review your weakest areas across all 13 tasks. Pull up your missed questions from the simulator, identify the patterns, and retake targeted quizzes until the gaps are closed.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Days 17 – 20	Section II Rapid Review: Read 5 to 6 Low-Impact tasks per day from the Secret Weapon. Solve a quick batch of questions for each. Keep the pace moving — these are not deep-dive topics.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 21	Full Exam 1: Complete a full simulation under real exam conditions. No distractions, no pausing. Thoroughly review every incorrect answer and understand why the right answer is right.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 22	Full Exam 2: Complete and review. Focus on any new weak areas that showed up since Day 21.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 23	Full Exam 3: Complete and review. By now you should notice your score stabilizing. If not, revisit the specific tasks you are still missing.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 24	Full Exam 4: Complete and review. Aim for consistency — a steady 72%+ across two or more exams means you are ready.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 25	Full Exam 5: Final simulation and comprehensive review. This is your confidence check. If you are hitting 72% or above, you are ready to schedule your exam.	<input type="checkbox"/>

B THE 7-DAY COMPRESSED PLAN

An intense sprint — requires 6+ hours per day

BE HONEST WITH YOURSELF

This plan works — but only if you are already 70 to 80 percent prepared. It is not a shortcut for someone who has barely studied. It is a final acceleration for someone who is nearly there.

TIMELINE	FOCUS AREA & DAILY TASK	DONE
Day 1		<input type="checkbox"/>

Critical 13, Part 1: Read the first 4 tasks from the Critical 13 in the Secret Weapon. After each one, solve the corresponding simulator questions and review every wrong answer before moving to the next task.

Day 2

Critical 13, Part 2: Read the next 4 tasks from the Critical 13. Same process — read, solve, review. No skipping the review step.

Day 3

Critical 13, Part 3: Read the next 4 tasks from the Critical 13. Continue solving and reviewing as you go.

Day 4

Critical 13 Wrap-Up: Read the final Critical task. Then go back through all the mistakes you made over the last three days and do a focused review session. Understand every pattern you missed.

Day 5

Full Exam 1 + Bonus Review: Complete Full Exam 1 and review all missed questions carefully. If time allows, read 7 of the Low-Impact tasks from the Secret Weapon as a bonus pass.

Day 6

Full Exam 2 + Bonus Review: Complete Full Exam 2 and review missed questions. Bonus: read another 7 Low-Impact tasks if you can.

Day 7

Full Exam 3 + Final Review: Complete Full Exam 3 and review everything that came up. Bonus: finish the remaining Low-Impact tasks. This is your final check before exam day.



FULL EXAMS =

YOU ARE READY

HOW DO YOU KNOW YOU ARE READY?

When you can consistently score 72% or higher on two full simulator exams in a row, you are ready to sit for the real exam.

Scoring 72% or above on the PMLearning simulator is a strong indicator that you are on track for an Above Target rating on the actual PMP exam. That benchmark is not a coincidence — it is calibrated to reflect real exam performance.

One Last Thing

You do not need a perfect score. You need to think like a project manager, make decisions the PMI way, and trust the preparation you have put in. Schedule the earliest date that feels realistic and go get that credential.

PMLearning

<https://www.pmlearning.org>

Good luck — and pass before July 9.

Still have a question?

We are here to help. Reach out any time and we will get back to you.

Email us at: support@pmlearning.org