

How to Prepare for the Rajasthan Pharmacist Exam

Important: The latest Pharmacist syllabus currently available in the Rajasthan Staff Selection Board archive is the **2018 official syllabus**. That recruitment process was later cancelled in 2020, so candidates preparing for a future Rajasthan Pharmacist recruitment should use this syllabus as a strong preparation base but must verify the **new official notification and syllabus** when released.

1. Understand the Exam Pattern First

According to the official RSSB Pharmacist 2018 syllabus, the written examination had:

Particular	Details
Type of Questions	Objective-Type MCQs
Total Questions	150
Total Marks	150
Duration	3 Hours
General Knowledge	Approx. 45 Questions
Pharmacy	Approx. 105 Questions
Negative Marking	1/3 mark deducted for each wrong answer
Minimum Qualifying Marks	40%

Thus, approximately **70% of the paper was Pharmacy and 30% Rajasthan General Knowledge**.

2. Preparation Process

Step 1: Start with the Official Syllabus

Do not begin preparation randomly. Divide the complete syllabus into:

A. Pharmacy

- Pharmaceutics
- Pharmaceutical Chemistry
- Pharmacology & Toxicology

- Pharmacognosy
- Human Anatomy & Physiology
- Biochemistry & Clinical Pathology
- Health Education & Community Pharmacy
- Pharmaceutical Jurisprudence
- Hospital & Clinical Pharmacy
- Drug Store & Business Management

B. Rajasthan General Knowledge

- Rajasthan History
- Art & Culture
- Geography
- Political and Administrative System
- Current Affairs related to Rajasthan

These areas are specifically covered by the official syllabus.

3. Build Concepts Before Memorising MCQs

First complete the **basic theory** of each Pharmacy subject.

For every chapter, follow this sequence:

Concept → Short Notes → MCQs → Previous Questions → Revision → Test

Avoid reading multiple books for the same topic. Use **one reliable source for theory** and a separate question bank for practice.

4. Important Pharmacy Syllabus

A. Pharmaceutics

Give special attention to:

- Dosage forms

- Metrology
- Pharmaceutical packaging
- Size separation
- Mixing and homogenisation
- Clarification and filtration
- Extraction
- Distillation
- Drying
- Sterilisation
- Aseptic techniques
- Tablets and capsules
- Immunological products
- Prescription
- Posology
- Prescription incompatibilities
- Powders
- Solutions
- Suspensions
- Emulsions
- Ointments, pastes and jellies
- Suppositories
- Parenteral preparations
- Ophthalmic preparations
- Sterility testing

These topics are explicitly included in the official Pharmacist syllabus.

Preparation Tip

Focus strongly on **definitions, formulation components, manufacturing methods, advantages/disadvantages, pharmaceutical calculations, evaluation tests and storage conditions.**

5. Pharmaceutical Chemistry

Important areas include:

- Acids, bases and buffers
- Antioxidants
- Gastrointestinal agents
- Topical agents
- Antimicrobials and astringents
- Dental products
- Respiratory stimulants
- Expectorants and emetics
- Antidotes
- Intra- and extracellular electrolytes
- Inorganic official compounds
- Radiopharmaceuticals and contrast media
- Identification tests for cations and anions
- Organic drug nomenclature
- Sulphonamides
- Antitubercular drugs
- Antibiotics
- Antifungal drugs
- Antimalarial drugs
- Hypnotics and sedatives
- Anaesthetics

- Antidepressants
- Adrenergic drugs
- Cholinergic drugs
- Diuretics
- Cardiovascular drugs
- Antihypertensives
- Vitamins
- Steroidal drugs
- Antineoplastic drugs

Preparation Tip

For important drugs, prepare:

Drug Name → Class → Structure/Characteristic → Mechanism → Uses → Important ADRs

6. Pharmacology & Toxicology

This should be one of your strongest areas.

Focus on:

- General Pharmacology
- Routes of drug administration
- Mechanism of drug action
- CNS drugs
- Autacoids
- Respiratory drugs
- Cardiovascular drugs
- Drugs affecting renal function
- Hormones and antagonists
- Gastrointestinal drugs

- Chemotherapy
- Antimicrobial agents
- Disinfectants and antiseptics

Must Prepare

For every major drug class, remember:

Prototype Drug + Mechanism + Uses + Adverse Effects + Contraindications + Important Interactions

7. Pharmacognosy

Important areas:

- Definition, history and scope
- Classification of crude drugs
- Natural sources of drugs
- Adulteration
- Drug evaluation
- Alkaloids
- Glycosides
- Terpenoids
- Volatile oils
- Tannins
- Resins
- Distribution and occurrence
- Chemical constituents
- Identification tests
- Therapeutic uses
- Pharmaceutical aids

Best Way to Study

Prepare crude drugs in a table:

Biological Source | Family | Chemical Constituents | Uses | Identification Test

8. Human Anatomy & Physiology

Prepare:

- Elementary tissues
- Skeletal system
- Cardiovascular system
- Respiratory system
- Urinary system
- Muscular system
- Central nervous system
- Sensory organs
- Digestive system
- Endocrine system
- Reproductive system

Give extra attention to **normal physiological values, hormones, organ functions and basic mechanisms.**

9. Biochemistry & Clinical Pathology

Important areas:

- Carbohydrates
- Lipids
- Vitamins
- Enzymes

- Basic biochemistry
- Blood
- Urine
- Erythrocytes
- Lymphocytes
- Platelets
- Basic pathology and diagnostic concepts

Prepare important **normal laboratory values** separately for quick revision.

10. Pharmaceutical Jurisprudence

This is a highly factual subject and should be revised repeatedly.

Important legislation in the official syllabus includes:

- Pharmacy Act, 1948
- Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940
- Drugs and Magic Remedies Act, 1954
- NDPS Act, 1985
- Drugs Price Control provisions
- Poisons Act
- Medicinal and Toilet Preparations Act
- Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act
- Pharmaceutical Ethics

Prepare Each Act As

Year → Objective → Authorities → Important Sections/Provisions → Schedules → Offences/Penalties

For the actual upcoming examination, study the **latest amended provisions**, not outdated legal information.

11. Hospital & Clinical Pharmacy

Important topics include:

- Hospital pharmacy
- Drug distribution systems
- Hospital formulary
- Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee
- Drug information services
- Sterile and non-sterile manufacturing
- Clinical pharmacy
- Medical terminology
- Disease and pathophysiology
- Drug interactions
- Adverse drug reactions
- Clinical toxicology
- Drug dependence
- Bioavailability

12. Community Pharmacy & Health Education

Prepare:

- Concept of health
- Nutrition and health
- First aid
- Environmental health
- Microbiology
- Communicable diseases
- Respiratory infections

- Intestinal infections
 - Arthropod-borne infections
 - Sexually transmitted diseases
 - Non-communicable diseases
 - Epidemiology
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13. Rajasthan GK – Important Syllabus

Do **not neglect Rajasthan GK**. The previous official scheme allotted approximately **45 questions** to General Knowledge.

Rajasthan History

Prepare:

- Major sources of Rajasthan history
- Important dynasties
- Famous rulers and achievements
- Mughal–Rajput relations
- Peasant and tribal movements
- Prajamandal movement
- Integration of Rajasthan
- Rajasthan's role in the freedom movement

Rajasthan Art & Culture

Focus on:

- Folk deities
- Saints
- Fairs and festivals
- Folk dances
- Folk music

- Musical instruments
- Paintings
- Handicrafts
- Architecture
- Forts and temples
- Literature
- Dialects
- Customs and traditions

Rajasthan Geography

Important topics:

- Location and extent
- Physiographic divisions
- Drainage system
- Climate
- Soil
- Natural vegetation
- Forests and wildlife
- Agriculture
- Major crops
- Irrigation projects
- Water conservation
- Minerals
- Transport
- Desertification
- Environmental issues

Political & Administrative System

Prepare:

- Governor
 - Chief Minister
 - State Legislature
 - High Court
 - District administration
 - Rajasthan Public Service Commission
 - State Election Commission
 - State Information Commission
 - Human Rights Commission
 - Local self-government
 - Panchayati Raj
 - Important administrative developments
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14. Best Subject-Wise Preparation Order

A practical sequence can be:

Phase 1

Pharmaceutics → Pharmacology → Pharmaceutical Chemistry

Phase 2

Pharmacognosy → HAP → Biochemistry

Phase 3

Jurisprudence → Hospital & Clinical Pharmacy → Community Pharmacy → Drug Store Management

Parallel Preparation

Study **Rajasthan GK every day** instead of leaving it for the end.

15. Daily Study Strategy

For a student studying around **6 hours per day**, a useful plan is:

Activity	Approx. Time
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Pharmacy Theory	2.5 Hours
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Rajasthan GK	1 Hour
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MCQ Practice	1.5 Hours
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Revision/Short Notes 1 Hour

The exact hours can be adjusted, but maintain a greater share for Pharmacy because the previous official scheme had about **105 Pharmacy questions out of 150**.

16. MCQ Practice Strategy

Do not wait until the syllabus is complete.

After every chapter:

- Solve **topic-wise MCQs**
- Mark incorrect questions
- Maintain an **error notebook**
- Reattempt wrong questions after a few days
- Practice previous Pharmacist recruitment questions
- Also use relevant GPAT, DI and other pharmacist recruitment MCQs for concept reinforcement

Target

Start with **50–100 MCQs daily** and gradually increase practice as the exam approaches.

Quality of analysis is more important than simply counting questions.

17. Make a “Mistake Notebook”

This can become one of your most valuable revision tools.

Write only:

- Wrong MCQs
- Confusing drug names
- Important drug adverse effects
- Important schedules and Acts
- Numerical values
- Pharmacognosy families and constituents
- Rajasthan dates and facts
- Frequently confused concepts

Before the examination, revise this notebook several times.

18. Use the 3-Level Revision Method

Revision 1

Within **24 hours** of studying the topic.

Revision 2

Again after approximately **7 days**.

Revision 3

During final subject-wise revision.

Subjects such as **Jurisprudence, Pharmacognosy, Pharmaceutical Chemistry and Rajasthan GK** require repeated factual revision.

19. Mock-Test Strategy

Once approximately **50–60% of the syllabus** is complete, start sectional tests.

After completing the syllabus:

- Attempt full-length mock tests
- Use a timer
- Follow the actual examination duration

- Analyse every incorrect answer
- Identify weak subjects
- Revise the weak chapter
- Reattempt similar questions

Never judge a mock test only by the score. Its main purpose is to identify mistakes before the real examination.

20. Negative-Marking Strategy

Under the previous official pattern, a wrong response attracted a **one-third mark deduction**.

Therefore:

- Attempt sure-shot questions first
 - Do not make unnecessary guesses
 - Use elimination when two or more options can confidently be rejected
 - Keep doubtful questions for the second round
 - Accuracy should come before the number of attempts
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21. Last 30 Days Strategy

Days 30–21

Complete remaining weak topics and revise major Pharmacy subjects.

Days 20–11

Focus on:

- Short notes
- Rajasthan GK
- Acts and schedules
- Important drugs
- Formulations

- Pharmacognosy
- Previous questions

Last 10 Days

Focus mainly on:

Revision + MCQs + Mock Tests + Error Notebook

Avoid starting large new books during the final week.

22. Important Tips for Rajasthan Pharmacist Aspirants

1. **Follow the official syllabus, not random study material.**
 2. Give Pharmacy more preparation time, but do not ignore Rajasthan GK.
 3. Study **Rajasthan GK daily**.
 4. Revise Pharmacology drug classifications repeatedly.
 5. Make concise notes for Pharmaceutical Jurisprudence.
 6. Memorise Pharmacognosy using comparative tables.
 7. Practise calculations in Pharmaceutics instead of only reading them.
 8. Learn important normal values from HAP and Clinical Pathology.
 9. Focus on both **conceptual and factual MCQs**.
 10. Analyse every mock test.
 11. Maintain an error notebook.
 12. Do not keep revision for the final month.
 13. Practise questions under time limits.
 14. Avoid switching repeatedly between books and teachers.
 15. When a fresh recruitment notification is issued, immediately compare its **exam pattern and syllabus** with your existing preparation.
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23. Common Mistakes to Avoid

✗ Studying Only Pharmacy

Rajasthan GK represented a substantial part of the previous official paper.

✗ Reading Without MCQ Practice

Competitive examinations test **recall, application and option elimination**.

✗ Too Many Books

Multiple sources often create confusion and slow revision.

✗ Ignoring Negative Marking

Accuracy is essential.

✗ No Revision Plan

Without revision, factual subjects are quickly forgotten.

✗ Waiting for the Notification to Start

A large part of the Pharmacy syllabus is standard. Strong basic preparation can begin before a new notification is released.