

Introducing

# Orthotist



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Careers



## About the role

Orthotists care for people who need splints, braces or special footwear to help improve their walking, or to reduce pain. These devices, called orthoses, also help to correct nerve, muscle and bone deformities.

“I like seeing people in outpatient clinics. There are lots of different challenges when prescribing braces and other devices that help improve someone’s activity levels or reduce their pain. It’s rewarding to see people getting better all the time, knowing I helped to make a difference.

– Orthotist

### Did you know?

There are over 1,000 registered prosthetists and orthotists in the UK<sup>(1)</sup> and more than 75 orthotists working in the NHS in Scotland<sup>(2)</sup>.

### → How to pursue this role

You can get into this career through a Prosthetics and Orthotics undergraduate degree programme. You’ll then need to register with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC).

### ☆ Top skills:

- caring for people
- working in a team
- communicating with people
- problem-solving skills
- persuading and motivating people
- critical thinking skills

#### References:

1. Health and Care Professions Council, registrant data, September 2020
2. Turas Data Intelligence, NHSScotland workforce data, June 2020

Find out more at  
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