

Choose a career in Prosthetics and Orthotics



The British Association of
Prosthetics and Orthotics



What is Prosthetics and Orthotics?

Prosthetics and Orthotics is a career that blends science, engineering, and healthcare to create life-changing devices for people of all ages.

- **Prosthetists** design, create, and fit prosthetic limbs for people who have limb difference or loss.
- **Orthotists** design and fit supportive devices such as braces, splints, and insoles to improve movement, posture, or function.
- **Technicians** manufacture, adjust, and repair custom-made prosthetic and orthotic devices using specialist tools and materials.
- **Support workers** assist clinicians and technicians, helping with patient care, device preparation, and clinic organisation.

Why choose this career?

- Make a real difference in people's lives
- Use cutting-edge technology and modern materials to design life-changing devices
- Solve creative and hands-on challenges every day
- Work in settings such as hospitals, NHS clinics, private clinics, research, and teaching
- Join a growing, future-focused profession with lots of opportunities

Skills you'll need

- Enjoy science, maths, and engineering.
- Enjoy using technology and design tools.
- Problem-solving & creative thinking.
- Compassion & good communication.
- Motivation to improve people's lives.

STEP 1

School/College

- GCSE/Nat 5s
- A Levels/Highers or equivalent in Biology, Maths, Physics, or Engineering



How to get there

(UK Pathway flowchart)



STEP 2

University/ Apprenticeship degree

or

Support Worker/ Technician Apprenticeship

- BSc or MSc in Prosthetics & Orthotics (for University route)
- Entry requirements set by the employer, may need specific experience in mechanical, technical, or healthcare-related field (for Technician/Support Worker Apprenticeship route)



STEP 3

Job Role

- HCPC registration to practice in the UK as prosthetist/orthotist (for University route)
- Support Worker or Technician

Career opportunities

NHS hospitals
and community clinics

Private practice

Research and innovation labs

Teaching and mentoring

Leadership



Scan the QR for
more information