

# Personal characteristics and skills required (operating department practice)

This page has information on the personal characteristics and skills needed for operating department practice (ODP).

Skills needed to be a operating department practitioner include:

- caring and compassionate nature
- ability to work well as part of a team
- being able to work in a highly technical area
- excellent problem solving and organisational skills
- being able to concentrate for lengthy periods of time
- very good communication skills
- thoughtful and conscientious approach to working
- being able to adapt to the environment including the potential to stand for long periods and react quickly in an emergency within a confined area

Being able to work in a highly technical area

## Values and behaviours

If you're applying for a role either directly in the NHS or in an organisation that provides NHS services, you'll be asked to show how you think the values of the [NHS Constitution](#) <sup>[1]</sup> apply in your everyday work. The same will be true if you are applying for a university course funded by the NHS.

Find out more about NHS values <sup>[2]</sup>

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**Source URL:** <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/allied-health-professionals/roles-allied-health-professions/operating-department-practitioner/personal-characteristics-and-skills>

### Links

[1] [https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#NHS\\_Constitution](https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#NHS_Constitution)

[2] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/about/working-health/nhs-constitution>