

# What Does a Paramedic Do?

**Paramedics have lots of skills including:**

- being reliable;
- being calm;
- being brave, not easily scared;
- being able to work in tricky conditions and places.



## **What roles and responsibilities do paramedics have?**

Paramedics are responsible for helping people that are hurt or ill. If you need them, then you would ring 999, just like you would for the police or the fire service. They try to get to people that need help as quickly as they possibly can. They can use lots of different medicines and machines to help people who are in trouble and keep them alive until they can get to hospital. They might need to help someone who is having trouble breathing or who has been hit by a car. Being a paramedic is not a day job. There are paramedics available at every hour of the day in case people are in trouble. There are paramedics everywhere across the country.

## **Where do they work?**

Paramedics spend most of their time on the road so that they can help people as quickly as possible. They can be found driving in ambulances, in special cars, on motorbikes and even in helicopters. They can be called to an accident anywhere at all. It might be on a beach, on the motorway or up a mountain. Paramedics have to be ready for anything. Some paramedics are especially brave as they choose to help people who are injured in war zones.



### **What do paramedics wear?**

Paramedics wear bright clothes that reflect light so that they can be seen in the dark. This help to keep them and others safe. They wear a uniform, just like the police, so that people can recognise and trust them.

### **How do you become a paramedic?**

You have to do well at school, spend time learning about medicine and practise first aid before you can become a paramedic.



# What Does a Paramedic Do? Questions

Answer the questions below in full sentences.

1. Which number do you ring in an emergency?

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2. When can you get help from a paramedic?

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3. Name two types of vehicle that paramedics might use.

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4. How do you know someone is a paramedic?

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5. Name two skills that paramedics need.

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6. What do you think would be tricky about being a paramedic?

Explain your answer.

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