

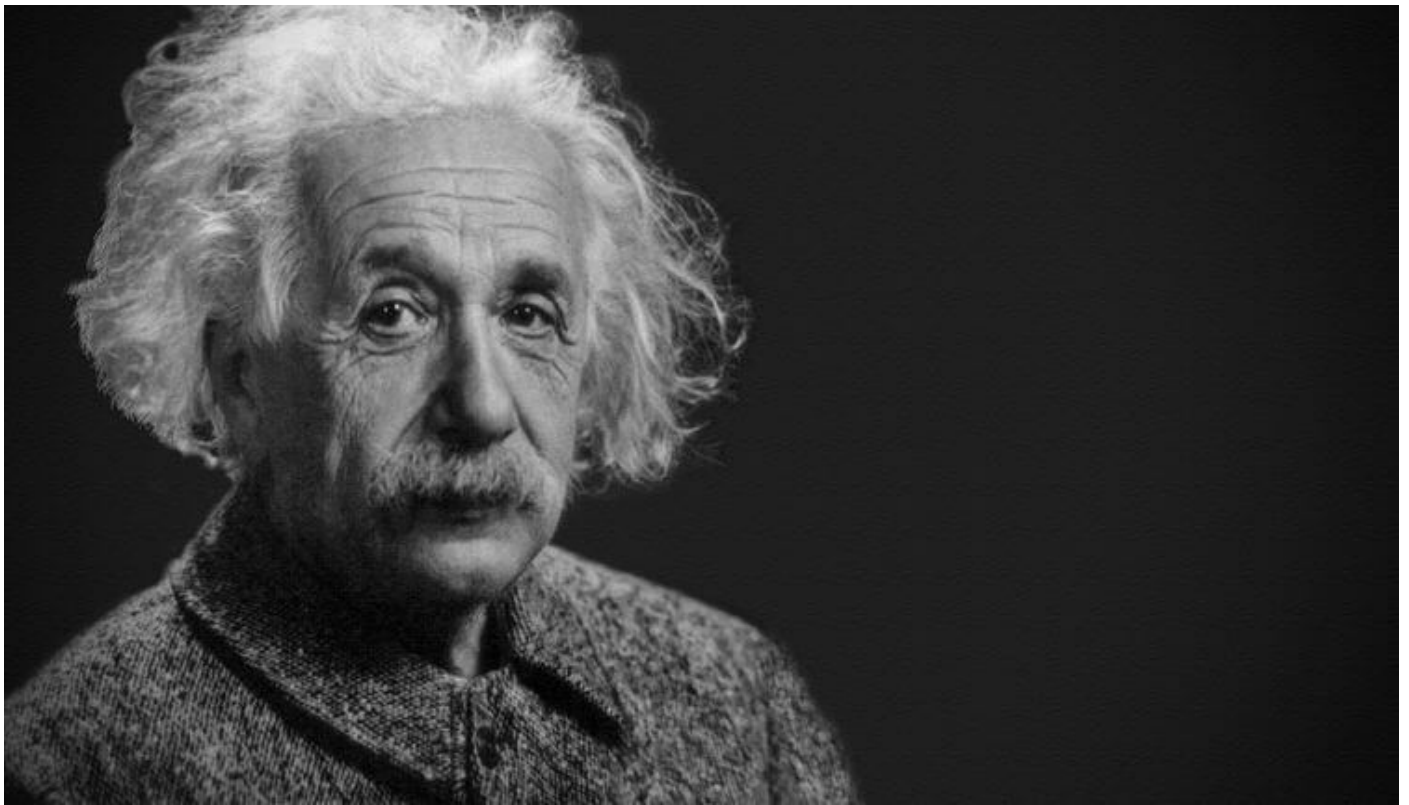
7 Traits of a Professional Scientist

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<https://www.enago.com/academy/behave-like-a-professional-scientist/>



When it comes to science, diversity makes all the difference. Nowadays, scientists from many different cultures and backgrounds collaborate on common goals. But among their objectives, they all have something in common. That each one of them knows how to behave as a professional scientist! In other words, they all behave “scientifically.”

Are you willing to take part in this community and be recognized as a serious and active professional? Here are those traits that help you behave like a good scientist and be considered as one:

Keep Updated

A good scientist would never stop learning. Actually, a really great one would never remain uninformed about the new discoveries and advances. Science changes constantly, and being updated is a must. That implies hard work, since scientists should keep studying their fields constantly in order to investigate further.

Be Organized

Scientists should not only follow scientific methods, but also find their own ways to make the most out of their researches and working plans. They are usually proactive, decisive, and efficient workers.

Be Skeptical

Curiosity leads scientists to question not only what they observe, but also what they already know. A good scientist may be willing to refute their own ideas if something doesn't look so obvious. Being open minded should be a first rule for scientists.

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Take Risks

In order to find out new ways, methods, and fields of study, some risks need to be taken. Scientists should be ready to change all their paradigms and pursue new lines of inquiry if the evidences lead to it.

Play the Rules of the Game

To become a great scientist it is necessary to act like one and participate in all the stipulated research processes. That includes writing and [presenting](#) the researches and results, which are sometimes considered hard and tedious tasks by many researchers.

Collaborate and Work in Groups

Science benefits from the diversity of perspectives, cultures, and backgrounds offered by researchers. Communication and collaboration are really important for plenty of reasons, and therefore scientists should not be solitary workers. In order to succeed in a scientific career, it is important to [collaborate](#) with colleagues.

Act with Integrity

Academic misconduct and professional behavior are not compatible. A professional scientist should always work on the benefit of science and not in order to only make a

name for himself. Even though some scientists are involved in cases of corruption and professional misconduct, many others still fight everyday to demonstrate the value of their work and the [honesty](#) of their profession.

Being a scientist is a matter of vocation for many. However, it is important to remember that it is a challenging career. It requires a lot of effort and dedication. Scientists combine a passion for science with rigorous work on the ground. The qualities needed to be a good scientist include both a curious personality and a disposition to work hard *scientifically*!

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