

## SECTION 3: Capacity assessment principles

This section describes the **five principles** to be applied in making an assessment of an adult's capacity.



Practical tip

You can print this page to use as a guide 



### Principle 1

Always presume an adult has capacity

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### Principle 2

Capacity is decision-specific and time-specific

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### Principle 3

Provide the adult with the support and information they need to make and communicate decisions

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### Principle 4

Assess the adult's decision-making ability rather than the decision they make

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### Principle 5

Respect the adult's dignity and privacy

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