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# Surgeons stitch better to a soundtrack

◆ Listening to music while they work improves the quality of surgeons' stitching in the operating theatre, according to research.

Surgeons who listen to their favourite music while operating stitch more quickly and more accurately. Any music appears to be effective, as long as it is the surgeon's preferred choice. In a test, 15 plastic surgeons were

asked to stitch up incisions in pigs' feet – which have skin of a very similar texture to that of humans.

One group was allowed to play music, and the other was not. The following day the groups were reversed. On average, the music groups were 7 per cent quicker and their stitching cleaner. The US study was published in *Aesthetic Surgery Journal*.