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Slower dance music only for South Korea gyms – 15th July, 2021

Level 0

There is now a maximum speed on songs gyms in South Korea can play. This is to stop a new wave of Covid-19. New rules will stop people breathing too quickly or sweating on each other. Gyms cannot play music with a tempo higher than 120 beats per minute (bpm). K-pop fans will be happy. The BTS hit Dynamite is 115 bpm.

The government said the country was at "crisis level". It felt sorry for gyms. It asked people for "a little more patience". Gym owners are unhappy. One asked if songs by BTS have any impact on spreading the virus. He said many people use their own earphones in gyms. This means it is difficult to control what they listen to.

Level 1

Gyms in South Korea's capital Seoul have a limit on the music they can play. The government put a maximum speed on songs to stop a new wave of Covid-19. The new rules will stop people breathing too quickly or splashing sweat on each other. Gyms cannot play music with a tempo higher than 120 beats per minute (bpm). The Lady Gaga song Bad Romance is under the limit at 119 bpm. K-pop fans will be happy because the BTS hit Dynamite is around 115 bpm.

South Korea's Prime Minister said the country was at "maximum crisis level". The president felt sorry for gyms affected by the rules. He asked people for "a little more patience". Gym owners are unhappy with the new rules. One said: "My biggest question is whether...songs by BTS has had any impact on spreading the virus." He said many people use their own earphones in gyms, so it is difficult to control what they listen to.

Level 2

Gyms in and around South Korea's capital Seoul have a limit on what music they can play. The government set a maximum speed on songs to limit the spread of Covid-19. There could be a new coronavirus wave in South Korea. The new rules are to stop people breathing too quickly or splashing sweat on each other. Gyms cannot play music with a tempo higher than 120 beats per minute (bpm). The song Bad Romance by Lady Gaga is just under the limit at 119 bpm. K-pop fans will be happy to know they can work out to BTS. The BTS hit Dynamite is around 115 bpm.

South Korea's Prime Minister warned that the country had reached "maximum crisis level". President Moon Jae-in said he felt sorry for businesses affected by the rules. He asked people to have "a little more patience". Many gym owners are unhappy with the new rules. One said: "My biggest question is whether playing classical music or songs by BTS has had any impact on spreading the virus." He asked: "Many people use their own earphones these days, so how do you control their playlists?" Another new rule is for treadmills. They will have a maximum speed of 6kph.

Level 3

Gyms and fitness clubs in and around South Korea's capital Seoul now have a limit on what kind of music they can play. The government has set a maximum speed on the tunes allowed. This is to limit the spread of Covid-19. There are the beginnings of a new coronavirus wave in South Korea. The new measures are to stop people breathing too quickly or splashing sweat on each other. Health officials have told gyms not to play music with a tempo higher than 120 beats per minute (bpm). The songs Bad Romance by Lady Gaga and Le Freak by the group Chic fall just under the limit at 119 bpm. K-pop fans will be relieved to know they can work out to BTS. The BTS hit Dynamite is around 115 bpm.

South Korea's Prime Minister Kim Boo-kyum warned the nation that the country had reached "maximum crisis level". President Moon Jae-in said he felt sorry for business owners affected by the rules. He said: "I can't help but feel very sorry to once again ask the citizens for a little more patience." Many gym owners are unhappy with the new rules. One said: "My biggest question is whether playing classical music or songs by BTS has been proved to have any impact on spreading the virus." He asked: "Many people use their own earphones...these days, so how do you control their playlists?" Another new rule is that treadmills will be limited to a maximum speed of 6kph.