

- Have you ever had music stuck in your mind? -

Regardless of whether the answer is yes or no, you are invited to participate in a research project that explores how people experience music that crops up in their mind as well as other involuntary and also voluntary thoughts. You might experience them all, some or none of these phenomena, but we are very much interested in your answers regardless.

We are conducting a study about music in our minds, also known as having an **earworm**. This experience involves having music that comes into the mind without effort (it is involuntary; without any intention to retrieve or recall the music) and then immediately repeats by itself (at least once, on a loop, without you consciously trying to replay it). An earworm may have words or it may just be a melody or a rhythm, and it can be pleasant or unpleasant.

We have developed an online questionnaire, which aims to more clearly define the patterns of earworms and other involuntary and voluntary thoughts in the general population and explore how this relates to their social and lifestyle factors. It will take approximately 30 minutes to complete the questionnaire and if you wish, you will be entered into a prize draw with the chance to win one of four £50 Amazon vouchers. To complete the questionnaire please follow this link: <https://goo.gl/8jQ8T5>

The study has been ethically approved by the Department of Music, University of Sheffield, ethics review procedure (reference number 014290). If you have any questions about the study, then you can contact the principal investigator Dr Georgina Floridou (g.floridou@sheffield.ac.uk).

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