Suture Size

**Smallest**  
  
10-0 Typically used in the most delicate surgeries. Common in both Ophthalmic (eye)  
9-0 surgery and for repairing small damaged nerves often due to lacerations in the  
8-0 hand.  
  
7-0 Used for repairing small vessels and arteries or for delicate facial plastic surgery.  
6-0 Common for use in vascular graft sewing such a carotid endarterectomy.  
  
5-0 Used for larger vessel repair such as an Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm or  
4-0 skin closure.  
  
3-0 Skin closure when there is a lot of tension on the tissue, closure of muscle layers  
2-0 or repair of bowel in general surgery.  
  
0 For closing of the fascia layer in abdominal surgery, the joint capsule in knee and  
1 hip surgery or deep layers in back surgery.  
  
2 For repair of tendons or other high tension structures in large orthopedic  
5 surgeries.  
  
**Largest**

Reference;

1. Surgical-instrument-picturescom. 1. Surgical-instrument-picturescom. [Online]. Available from: http://www.surgical-instrument-pictures.com/suture.html [Accessed 20 October 2015].

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