# **Q:** How are the top 10 plastic surgeons ranked?

## **A:**

#### QUICK ANSWER

Medical board certifications, inventiveness, television appearances and surgical proficiency are some of the criteria used to determine the rank of top plastic surgeons. Other considerations include membership in professional associations, training and experience, as the Consumers' Research Council of America explains.

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- Where can a medical doctor's certification be found?
- What criteria are used in evaluating cataract surgeons?

#### FULL ANSWER

The opinion of peers affects the ranking of plastic surgeons, notes AskMen. For this reason, cosmetic surgeons who command great respect among their peers, such as the highly regarded facial cosmetic surgeon Dr. Garth Fisher and the highly decorated Dr. Richard Ellenbogen, typically receive more favorable rankings.

Pushing the boundaries of knowledge in the public and professional spheres also influences rankings. This criterion is advantageous to plastic surgeons who frequently appear on television, are regularly cited by consumer-focused publications or are extensively published on journals and other professional publications. This grading method has produced favorable rankings for Dr. Ellenbogen, who is regarded as one of the most published cosmetic surgeons; Dr. Richard Fleming and Dr. Toby Mayer, who have been quoted in publications such as the Los Angeles Times, People and Men's Health; and Dr. William Dorfman, who has appeared on television shows such as Extreme Makeover.

No method of ranking plastic surgeons is beyond reproach, warns the Consumers' Research Council of America, and all grading methods retain an element of subjectivity. For instance, professionals with large practices are more likely to be quoted by peers than those working out of smaller offices.

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