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Jiaying

大家好，欢迎来到 BBC 英语教学的“地道英语”节目，我是佳莹。

Neil

... and hello. I'm Neil. Are those new jeans, Jiaying?

Jiaying

Yes, they are! Do you like them? I'm not so sure about them... They're not a patch on my old ones.

Neil

Well, I was going to say – you probably do need some patches. They're covered in holes!

Jiaying

The holes are supposed to be there, Neil. It's fashionable to have holes in your jeans these days.

Neil

Ah, right. So, why are you talking about patches?

Jiaying

我是在为这期节目介绍一个英语表达。如果我们说，某样东西“isn't a patch on something”，意思就是前面提到的那样东西远远不如后者好。

Neil

I see. So it's not connected to the word 'patch', which means a textile cover for something which is damaged?

Jiaying

没错！我是说我的旧牛仔裤比这条新的要好得多。Let's hear some examples of this expression in action.

Examples

My new phone isn't a patch on the old one. The camera is rubbish.

I know some people disagree, but for me the Olympics isn't a patch on the World Cup. Football is way more exciting!

My holiday at home wasn't a patch on a trip abroad. Overseas travel is so much more fun.

Jiaying

你正在收听的是 BBC 英语教学的“地道英语”节目。我们正在介绍表达“not a patch on something”，意思是“一样东西远没有另一样好”。Neil，你拿着那把刀干什么？

Neil

I'm just cutting some holes in my jeans – you know, to be more fashionable, like you!

Jiaying

That looks terrible – and if you're not careful you're going to cut yourself!

Neil

You're right, Jiaying. These types of holes in jeans are really not fashionable, are they?

Jiaying

No. In this case, I think you really do need some patches.

Neil

Bye.

Jiaying

Bye!