

carol burnett show episode guide

carol burnett show episode guide offers an in-depth look at one of television's most beloved variety series. This comprehensive article provides detailed information about the show's episodes, spanning its entire run from 1967 to 1978. The Carol Burnett Show is known for its unique blend of comedy sketches, musical performances, and celebrity guest appearances. This episode guide not only lists individual episodes but also highlights significant sketches, recurring characters, and notable moments that have left a lasting impact on popular culture. Whether you are a longtime fan or a newcomer seeking to explore the series, this guide delivers valuable insights and structured information to navigate the show's extensive catalog. The following sections will cover the show's historical context, season-by-season breakdowns, and special episodes to create a detailed and user-friendly episode reference.

- Overview of The Carol Burnett Show
- Season-by-Season Episode Breakdown
- Notable Recurring Sketches and Characters
- Celebrity Guests and Special Appearances
- Home Media and Availability

Overview of The Carol Burnett Show

The Carol Burnett Show was a groundbreaking American variety television program that aired on CBS from 1967 to 1978. Hosted by comedian and actress Carol Burnett, the show combined sketch comedy, musical numbers, and guest stars to create a unique entertainment experience. It was praised for its clever writing, impeccable timing, and the chemistry among its ensemble cast, which included Tim Conway, Harvey Korman, Vicki Lawrence, and Lyle Waggoner. This section outlines the show's format, its cultural significance, and the general structure of its episodes, providing a foundation for the detailed episode guide that follows.

Format and Structure

Each episode of The Carol Burnett Show typically opened with a comedic monologue or a sketch featuring the main cast. The show included a variety of sketches ranging from parodies of popular films and television shows to original comedy bits. Musical performances by Carol Burnett and guest stars

were interspersed throughout the episodes, creating a balanced variety format. The program often concluded with a heartfelt “Charwoman” sketch, where Burnett’s character would sweep the stage, delivering a closing line that became an iconic signature of the series.

Impact and Legacy

The show garnered critical acclaim and numerous awards, including multiple Emmy Awards. Its influence extended beyond its original run, inspiring future variety and sketch comedy programs. The Carol Burnett Show is frequently cited for its innovative approach to television comedy, blending satire with heartfelt moments. The show's episode guide captures this rich legacy by documenting each installment’s unique contributions to the series.

Season-by-Season Episode Breakdown

This section provides a detailed episode guide organized by season, summarizing key content and notable highlights from each year of The Carol Burnett Show’s broadcast history. The show ran for 11 seasons, with over 270 episodes, each featuring a mix of comedy sketches and musical performances.

Season 1 (1967–1968)

The inaugural season established the show's format and introduced audiences to its signature style. Early episodes featured popular sketches such as “The Family” and “As the Stomach Turns,” which became recurring segments. This season set the tone for the series with strong ensemble performances and inventive comedy writing.

Season 2 to Season 5 (1968–1973)

During these middle seasons, The Carol Burnett Show reached its creative peak. The writing staff expanded, and the cast developed iconic characters that became fan favorites. Memorable sketches from this era include parodies of classic films like “Gone with the Wind” and “The Wizard of Oz.” The episode guide highlights several standout episodes that are frequently cited as the best in the series.

Season 6 to Season 11 (1973–1978)

In its later years, the show continued to innovate while adapting to changes in television comedy trends. The cast underwent some changes, but the quality of sketches and musical numbers remained high. The final season concluded with a special farewell episode that celebrated the show’s successful run.

This section of the episode guide details the evolution of the show's content and style in its concluding seasons.

Notable Recurring Sketches and Characters

The Carol Burnett Show is renowned for its memorable recurring sketches and characters that contributed greatly to its popularity. This section focuses on these elements, providing descriptions and examples from various episodes.

The Family

One of the most beloved recurring sketches, "The Family," featured Carol Burnett as Eunice and Vicki Lawrence as her mother, Thelma Harper (Mama). These sketches explored family dynamics with humor and emotional depth, becoming a staple of the show throughout its run.

Mrs. Wiggins

Tim Conway and Harvey Korman starred in "Mrs. Wiggins," a sketch featuring Korman as an inept businessman and Conway as his dim-witted secretary. This sketch became a fan favorite for its slapstick humor and clever dialogue, appearing in multiple episodes.

Other Recurring Characters

- Charwoman (Carol Burnett) – The closing character who swept the stage with a mop and delivered the show's final line.
- Mr. Tudball (Tim Conway) – A bumbling foreign businessman often paired with Mrs. Wiggins.
- Ernestine the Telephone Operator (Carol Burnett) – A sarcastic character known for her distinctive voice and catchphrases.

Celebrity Guests and Special Appearances

Throughout its run, The Carol Burnett Show featured numerous celebrity guests who appeared in sketches and musical numbers. This section highlights some of the most notable guest stars and special episodes that enriched the series.

Frequent Celebrity Guests

The show welcomed a wide range of celebrities from various entertainment fields, including actors, musicians, and comedians. Guests such as Lucille Ball, Elton John, Julie Andrews, and Alan Alda appeared multiple times, adding star power and variety to the episodes.

Special Episodes and Milestones

Several episodes were produced as specials, including anniversary shows and tribute episodes that celebrated the careers of cast members or honored television milestones. These episodes often featured extended sketches and a larger roster of guest stars, making them highlights in the episode guide.

Home Media and Availability

For viewers interested in exploring The Carol Burnett Show episodes, this section provides information on home media releases and streaming options. Access to the series has been made available through various formats over the years.

DVD Releases

Selected seasons and best-of compilations have been released on DVD, allowing fans to own and revisit classic episodes. These collections often include remastered footage and bonus features such as interviews and behind-the-scenes content.

Streaming Platforms

The Carol Burnett Show is available on several streaming services, making it accessible to new audiences and longtime fans alike. Streaming availability varies by region and platform, and the episode guide can assist viewers in identifying which episodes or seasons are included in these services.

Other Formats

In addition to DVDs and streaming, episodes have been broadcast in syndication and special television airings. The show's enduring popularity ensures that it remains accessible through multiple distribution channels.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Carol Burnett Show episode guide?

The Carol Burnett Show episode guide is a comprehensive list detailing the episodes of the variety/sketch comedy show hosted by Carol Burnett, including air dates, guest stars, and sketches.

Where can I find a complete Carol Burnett Show episode guide?

Complete episode guides for The Carol Burnett Show can be found on websites like IMDb, TV.com, and dedicated fan sites that catalog TV show episodes.

How many seasons are covered in the Carol Burnett Show episode guide?

The Carol Burnett Show ran for 11 seasons from 1967 to 1978, and most episode guides cover all these seasons.

Does the Carol Burnett Show episode guide include guest stars?

Yes, most episode guides list notable guest stars appearing in each episode of The Carol Burnett Show.

Are the sketches listed in the Carol Burnett Show episode guide?

Some detailed episode guides include summaries of sketches performed during each episode, highlighting the show's comedic content.

Can I find air dates for Carol Burnett Show episodes in the episode guide?

Yes, episode guides typically provide original air dates for each episode of The Carol Burnett Show.

Is the Carol Burnett Show episode guide useful for collectors?

Absolutely, collectors use episode guides to track which episodes they have on DVD or other media and to identify rare or special episodes.

Are there any official Carol Burnett Show episode guides published?

There are official and unofficial guides; however, most comprehensive episode guides are fan-made or found on TV database websites rather than in official published books.

Does the episode guide detail musical performances on the Carol Burnett Show?

Many episode guides note musical performances, as music was a significant part of the variety show format on The Carol Burnett Show.

How detailed are the summaries in a typical Carol Burnett Show episode guide?

Summary detail varies; some guides provide brief overviews of sketches and guest appearances, while others offer in-depth descriptions and trivia about each episode.

Additional Resources

1. The Carol Burnett Show: An Episode Guide and History

This comprehensive guide offers a detailed episode-by-episode breakdown of The Carol Burnett Show, including guest stars, sketches, and memorable moments. It provides historical context on the show's development and impact on television comedy. Ideal for fans and researchers alike, the book captures the essence of this iconic variety series.

2. Laughing Through the Decades: The Carol Burnett Show's Legacy

Exploring the lasting influence of The Carol Burnett Show, this book highlights key episodes and sketches that shaped American comedy. It includes analysis of guest appearances, musical performances, and behind-the-scenes stories. Readers gain insight into how the show set standards for variety entertainment.

3. Behind the Scenes of The Carol Burnett Show

This book delves into the making of The Carol Burnett Show, featuring interviews with cast members, writers, and producers. It reveals the creative process behind episode planning and sketch writing, offering fans a rare glimpse into the production challenges and triumphs. Anecdotes from tapings enrich the narrative.

4. Sketches and Stars: A Carol Burnett Show Companion

Focused on the iconic sketches and recurring characters, this companion book breaks down fan-favorite episodes and performances. It highlights the contributions of key cast members and guest stars, providing context for each memorable segment. The book also includes rare photos and script excerpts.

5. *The Complete Carol Burnett Show Episode Index*

A definitive episode index, this book catalogs every episode of The Carol Burnett Show with details on air dates, guest stars, and featured sketches. It serves as an essential reference for collectors and television historians. The organized format makes it easy to locate specific episodes or themes.

6. *Carol Burnett and the Golden Age of Variety Television*

This book situates The Carol Burnett Show within the broader golden age of variety programming. It discusses key episodes in relation to cultural and social trends of the 1960s and 1970s. Readers explore how the show reflected and influenced its era's entertainment landscape.

7. *Memorable Moments from The Carol Burnett Show*

Highlighting standout episodes and unforgettable sketches, this book celebrates the funniest and most touching moments of The Carol Burnett Show. It offers detailed descriptions and commentary, bringing to life the humor and heart that defined the series. Perfect for nostalgic fans and new viewers.

8. *The Carol Burnett Show: Guest Stars and Special Episodes*

Focusing on the celebrities who appeared on the show, this book profiles notable guest stars and the special episodes they helped create. It includes stories behind their appearances and the impact these episodes had on the show's popularity. The book also covers holiday specials and milestone episodes.

9. *From Script to Stage: Writing for The Carol Burnett Show*

This book explores the writing process behind the show's iconic sketches and episodes. Featuring interviews with writers and script excerpts, it reveals how humor was crafted to fit Carol Burnett's unique style and the ensemble cast's talents. It's an insightful resource for aspiring comedy writers and fans interested in television writing.

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