

= Baggage (U.S. game show) =

Baggage is an American dating game show hosted by Jerry Springer and broadcast by Game Show Network . The original series premiered on April 19 , 2010 , airing for four seasons . A spin @-@ off series , entitled Baggage on the Road , aired for one season , which debuted January 7 , 2015 . The show has earned high ratings by GSN 's standards ; despite this , it has also received mixed critical reception .

The series gives three contestants the chance to win the eye of a prospective date . The contestants carry three suitcases onstage : a small , medium , and large one . Each suitcase contains an embarrassing , gross , unique , or weird proposition the contestant may have . These cases represent the " baggage " to which they will confess and defend . The bigger the suitcase , the bigger the secret . Once the three contestants are pared down to one , the potential dater must admit to a fault of his or her own .

= = Gameplay = =

The game is played by first introducing the central character . Three contestants are then introduced , each accompanied by three pieces of baggage : a small one , a medium one , and a large one , with each one containing a corresponding secret . The central contestant also has a piece of baggage of his or her own , which is only revealed at the end of the show . During the show , three possible secrets about the central contestant are given , one of which is the actual secret contained in their baggage . These secrets can include bad habits , strange relationship preferences , issues with one 's past , or strange hobbies . After the three other contestants are introduced , they each open the smallest piece of baggage , and explain the secrets they contain .

In the second segment , Springer reveals the second piece of baggage , contained in the medium @-@ sized suitcase . The three contestants are placed on the other side of the stage , along with the central contestant . Only the three contestants know which piece of baggage belongs to whom . The main contestant chooses the one piece of baggage which is the " deal breaker " (i.e. , the one secret that they cannot accept) . After stating this , the contestants then return to the other side of the stage and reveal which suitcase belongs to them . The person who claims the deal breaker baggage is immediately eliminated , and reveals the largest piece of baggage that would have been shown in the final round . The central contestant and two remaining contestants discuss the secrets in the medium pieces of baggage ; the two contestants then plead their cases as to why they should be the central contestant 's choice . The two remaining contestants , one at a time , are then asked a few questions (usually five or six each) by Springer about their personal lives .

The two remaining contestants open their largest pieces of baggage and reveal the secrets they contain . Each contestant makes one final statement , and the main contestant eliminates a second contestant . The main contestant 's own baggage is then opened and the contents revealed to the remaining contestant . If the contestant accepts the secret belonging to the central character , the couple is given an expense @-@ covered evening together . However , if the contestant can not accept the secret , the pair part ways .

= = Production = =

The series was officially announced on March 23 , 2010 , with Jerry Springer being confirmed as the host . The original series was produced by Comcast Entertainment Group ; Jay James and Tim Puntillo served as executive producers . On July 26 , GSN announced plans to renew the show for a second season , which began airing on August 16 , 2010 . A syndication test run was shown on a select group of Sinclair Broadcast Group 's stations January 10 , 2011 . The series began airing in syndication in the United States in September 2012 , becoming to first original program the network 's history to achieve such a feat .

A third season began airing on June 6 , 2011 . During season three , a half @-@ hour special entitled Baggage First Dates aired during a five @-@ hour " Best of Baggage Marathon . " The

special followed a couple who had previously appeared on the show talking to Springer about what happened on their first date following their appearance . A fourth season of the show premiered on March 14 , 2012 .

With GSN 's Executive Vice President of Programming , Amy Introcaso @-@ Davis , citing that the series continued to remain " extremely popular " in reruns , GSN announced plans to order twenty episodes of a traveling version of the series . The spin @-@ off , entitled *Baggage on the Road* , follows an identical format to its predecessor while traveling to tape episodes in various U.S. cities . Prior to the spin @-@ off , a one @-@ hour special entitled *Baggage : Most Outrageous Moments* aired on January 1 , 2015 , featuring highlights from the original series ' run . The spin @-@ off premiered on January 7 , 2015 ; Wilshire Studios produced the revival with Lisa Tucker serving as executive producer .

= = Reception = =

The show quickly became a ratings success for GSN , becoming the highest @-@ rated weekday series in the network 's history . The original series averaged 473 @, @ 000 viewers during its first season , while the 2015 version saw a season @-@ high of 524 @, @ 000 viewers for its only season . Despite earning respectable ratings by GSN 's standards , *Baggage* has received mixed critical reviews . Carrie Grosvenor of *About Entertainment* argued that the series " isn 't exactly must @-@ see TV , but it 's entertaining enough to catch an episode here and there . " Additionally , Josef Adalian of *The Wrap* gave a negative pre @-@ review of the show , calling it and Springer " GSN 's latest bad idea . " In 2012 , however , *Baggage* appeared in *Entertainment Weekly* as a " top guilty pleasure , " and was also featured in the HBO television series *Girls* . Writing for *Yahoo !* , Gabrielle Rice called the series " very entertaining , " and argued Springer to be " the perfect host for the show . " June Thomas , writing for *Slate* , opened her review by calling the series " real , and ... spectacular . " Additionally , Jordan Carr of *The Awl* titled his review , " Jerry Springer 's *Baggage* Is The Greatest TV Show Ever . " Carr called the formula of the show " brilliant " despite it being " predictable and not that exciting . "

The series has also spawned Australian and British versions under the same title . The British series , hosted by Gok Wan , aired on Channel 4 in 2012 .