

= Arrested Development (TV series) =

Arrested Development is an American television sitcom created by Mitchell Hurwitz , which originally aired on Fox for three seasons from November 2 , 2003 to February 10 , 2006 . A fourth season of 15 episodes was released on Netflix on May 26 , 2013 . The show follows the fictitious Bluth family , a formerly wealthy and habitually dysfunctional family . It is presented in a continuous format , incorporating handheld camera work and voice @-@ over narration , as well as the use of occasional archival photos and historical footage . The show also utilizes several long @-@ running " easter egg " jokes throughout each season . Ron Howard serves as both an executive producer and the series ' uncredited narrator . Set in Newport Beach , California , Arrested Development was filmed primarily in Culver City and Marina del Rey .

After its debut in 2003 , the series received widespread critical acclaim , six Primetime Emmy Awards , and one Golden Globe Award , and has attracted a cult following , including several fan @-@ based websites . In 2007 , Time listed the show among its " All @-@ TIME 100 TV Shows " ; in 2008 , it was ranked 16th on Entertainment Weekly 's " New TV Classics " list . In 2011 , IGN named Arrested Development the " funniest show of all time " . Its humor has been cited as a key influence on later single @-@ camera sitcoms such as 30 Rock and Community .

Despite critical acclaim , Arrested Development received low ratings and viewership on Fox , which canceled the series in 2006 . Rumors of an additional season and a feature film persisted until 2011 , when Netflix agreed to license new episodes and distribute them exclusively on its video streaming service . These episodes were later released in 2013 . Netflix has also commissioned a fifth season of Arrested Development , which is expected to premiere in 2016 . A script for an Arrested Development film has also been in development , with the main cast reported to reprise their original roles in both the fifth season and the film .

= = Production = =

= = = Conception = = =

Discussion that led to the creation of the series began in the summer of 2002 . Ron Howard had the original idea to create a comedy series in the style of handheld cameras and reality television , but with an elaborate , highly comical script resulting from repeated rewritings and rehearsals . Howard met with David Nevins , the President of Imagine Television , Katie O 'Connell , a senior vice president , and two writers , including Mitchell Hurwitz . In light of recent corporate accounting scandals , such as Enron and Adelphia , Hurwitz suggested a story about a " riches to rags " family . Howard and Imagine were immediately interested in using this idea , and signed Hurwitz to write the show . The idea was pitched and sold in the fall of 2002 . There was a bidding war for the show between Fox and NBC , with the show ultimately selling to Fox as a put pilot with a six @-@ figure penalty .

Over the next few months , Hurwitz developed the characters and plot for the series . The script of the pilot episode was submitted in January 2003 and filmed in March 2003 . It was submitted in late April to Fox and was added to the network 's fall schedule that May .

= = = Casting = = =

Alia Shawkat was the first cast in the series . Michael Cera , Tony Hale , and Jessica Walter were cast from video tapes and flown in to audition for Fox . Jason Bateman and Portia de Rossi both read and auditioned for the network and were immediately chosen . The character of Gob was apparently the most challenging to cast . When Will Arnett auditioned , he played the character " like a guy who thought of himself as the chosen son , even though it was obvious to everyone else that he was the least favorite " ; he was chosen immediately for his unique portrayal . The characters of Tobias and George Sr. were originally going to have minor roles , but David Cross and Jeffrey

Tambor 's portrayals mixed well with the rest of the characters , and they were given more significant parts . Howard provided the narration for the initial pilot , and his narrating meshed so well with the tone of the program that the decision was made to keep his voice . Howard also aided in the casting of " Lucille 2 " ; the producers told him that their dream actress for the role was Liza Minnelli but assumed no one of her stature would take the part . She agreed when Ron Howard asked her himself , because they were old friends ; she had been his babysitter when he was a teenager .

= = = Production design = = =

Arrested Development uses several elements rare for American live @-@ action sitcoms . It was shot on location and on videotape with multiple cameras , parodying tactics often employed in documentary film and reality television , straying from the " fixed @-@ set , studio audience , laugh track " style long dominant in comedy production . The show also makes heavy use of cutaway gags , supplementing the narrative with visual punchlines like security camera footage , Bluth family photos , website screenshots , archive films , and flashbacks . An omniscient third @-@ person narrator (producer Ron Howard) ties together the multiple plot threads running through each episode , while humorously undercutting and commenting on the characters . Arrested Development also developed a unique self @-@ referentiality through use of in @-@ jokes that evolved over multiple episodes , which rewarded longtime viewership (and in turn may have discouraged new viewers and contributed to the show 's ratings issues) .

= = = Lawsuit = = =

In November 2003 , the producers of the show were sued by the hip hop group Arrested Development over the alleged use of their name . Rapper " Speech " from the group said " The use of our name by Fox is not only confusing to the public , but also has the potential to significantly dilute what the ' Arrested Development ' name means to our fans " . The lawsuit was quietly settled for an undisclosed sum .

This incident was referenced in the episode " Motherboy XXX " . The narration refers to a band called " Motherboy " , which the narration claims the show is " legally required to make a distinction " from , with respect to the " Motherboy " event happening in the episode .

= = = Cancellation and revival = = =

During the series ' third season in 2006 , despite months @-@ long rumors of Arrested Development having been picked up by the cable television network Showtime , creator Hurwitz declined to move the show to another network . As Hurwitz explained , " I had taken it as far as I felt I could as a series . I told the story I wanted to tell , and we were getting to a point where I think a lot of the actors were ready to move on . " He said that he was " more worried about letting down the fans in terms of the quality of the show dropping " than he was about disappointing fans by not giving them more episodes . He also said , " If there 's a way to continue this in a form that 's not weekly episodic series television , I 'd be up for it " .

On October 2 , 2011 , the entire cast of Arrested Development reunited for a panel at The New Yorker Festival in New York . At the panel , Hurwitz declared his intention of producing a truncated fourth season as a lead @-@ in to a film adaptation .

Six years after the series had been canceled by Fox , filming for a revived fourth season began on August 7 , 2012 . Fifteen episodes of the show 's revival season were released simultaneously on Netflix on May 26 , 2013 .

= = = = Future = = = =

Rumors of a possible full @-@ length Arrested Development film circulated after the possibility was

referenced in season 3 's final episode , " Development Arrested " . In 2008 , Howard was slated to direct the film , though it is not clear if he still is . Reportedly , all original members of the main cast are expected to reprise their original roles . As of July 11 , 2013 , Netflix was in discussions for a fifth season . In August 2013 , Hurwitz commented " I 'm working on the movie right now " and his plan is to do another season after the movie is completed . In August 2014 , Netflix chief content officer Ted Sarandos stated in an interview with USA Today that there is a strong possibility of a fifth season . " It 's just a matter of when . " In April 2015 , executive producer Brian Grazer confirmed that a fifth season is in development and will consist of 17 episodes . However , in February 2016 , Jason Bateman said regarding a fifth season , " There is no plan . I haven 't heard of anything solid going forward . " On June 9 , 2016 , Tony Hale posted a photo on his Instagram account of him and Alia Shawkat , saying , " Arrested Season 5 . Been a few changes . "

= = Characters = =

= = = Main characters = = =

The plot of Arrested Development revolves around the members of the Bluth family , who lead extravagant lifestyles , and are also often drawn into interactions with incestuous undertones . At the center of the show is Michael Bluth (Jason Bateman) , the show 's straight man , who strives to do the right thing and keep his family together , despite their materialism , selfishness , and manipulative natures . Michael is a widowed single father . His teenage son , George Michael (Michael Cera) , has the same qualities of decency but feels a constant pressure to live up to his father 's expectations and is often reluctant to follow his father 's plans .

Michael 's father , George Bluth Sr. (Jeffrey Tambor) , is the patriarch of the family , who often goes to considerable lengths to manipulate and control his family . His wife , and Michael 's mother , Lucille (Jessica Walter) , is equally manipulative , materialistic , and hypercritical of every member of her family , as well as being a perpetual drunk . In particular , she has a tight grip on her youngest son , Byron " Buster " Bluth (Tony Hale) , who , as a result of her over @-@ mothering , is socially inept and prone to panic attacks .

Michael 's older brother is George Oscar Bluth (" GOB ") (Will Arnett) , an unsuccessful professional magician whose business and personal schemes usually fail or become tiresome and are quickly abandoned . His name is an acronym for George Oscar Bluth II , pronounced / dʒoʊb / , like the Biblical figure Job . Michael 's twin sister Lindsay (Portia de Rossi) is spoiled and materialistic , continually desiring to be the center of attention and attracted to various social causes . She is married to Tobias Fünke (David Cross) , a discredited psychiatrist @-@ turned @-@ aspiring actor . Tobias is a self @-@ diagnosed " never @-@ nude " (a disorder comparable to gymnophobia) , whose language and behavior have heavily homosexual overtones to which he seems completely oblivious and which are the center of much tongue @-@ in @-@ cheek comedy throughout the series . Their daughter is Mae " Maeby " Fünke (Alia Shawkat) , a rebellious teen , whose chief motivation is defying her parents , in an effort to get their attention .

= = = Recurring characters = = =

Several other characters regularly appear in recurring roles . George Sr. 's identical twin brother , Oscar (also played by Jeffrey Tambor) , is a lethargic ex @-@ hippie seeking the affection of George 's wife , Lucille . The family 's lawyer , Barry Zuckerkorn (Henry Winkler) , is an incompetent sexual deviant who often hinders the family 's legal battles rather than helping them . He is eventually replaced by Bob Loblaw (Scott Baio) . Lucille Austero , or " Lucille 2 " , played by Liza Minnelli , is Lucille 's " best friend and chief social rival " as well as a sometimes @-@ love interest of Buster and , later , Gob . Steve Holt (Justin Grant Wade) is a high school senior and football star at the high school George Michael and Maeby attend , and is later discovered to be Gob 's son . Carl Weathers plays a parodied version of himself as Tobias ' acting coach .

Beginning in the second season , Mae Whitman plays Ann Veal , George Michael 's sternly Christian girlfriend , often forgotten or disparaged by Michael . Ann was also played by Alessandra Torresani , and first appeared in the season 1 episode " Let ' Em Eat Cake " . Marta Estrella was originally played by Leonor Varela and later by Patricia Velasquez , and appears as Gob 's girlfriend , which causes conflict between him and Michael . J. Walter Weatherman (Steve Ryan) , a one @-@ armed amputee , is an old employee of George Sr. Weatherman appears in flashbacks in many episodes where , as hired by George Sr. , he would teach George Sr. 's children lessons .

A British mentally handicapped woman named Rita Leeds (Charlize Theron) appears in five episodes in the third season as Michael 's female companion . Judy Greer plays George Bluth Senior 's assistant and lover (and partner @-@ in @-@ crime) , Kitty Sanchez , for 10 episodes of the series . Ed Begley , Jr. plays Stan Sitwell , the owner of Sitwell Enterprises , a rival company to the Bluth Company . Christine Taylor plays Sally Sitwell , Stan Sitwell 's daughter and a consistent love interest for Michael . Justin Lee plays Annyong , the adopted Korean son of Lucille and George Sr. Julia Louis @-@ Dreyfus plays Maggie Lizer , an attorney and compulsive liar who has a recurring relationship with Michael . Rob Corddry plays Moses Taylor , the star of the fictional TV show " Frank Wrench " and a noted gun rights activist . Ben Stiller plays magician and Gob 's chief rival Tony Wonder , well known for baking himself into a loaf of bread to feed the troops . Amy Poehler plays Gob 's unnamed and frequently forgotten wife who married Gob as the final in a long line of escalating dares . Jane Lynch plays Cindi Lightballoon , a government mole who tries to gather incriminating information from an incarcerated George Sr. but ends up falling in love with him instead .

= = Episodes = =

= = = Season one (2003 ? 04) = = =

George Bluth Sr. , patriarch of the Bluth family , is the founder and former CEO of the Bluth Company which markets and builds mini @-@ mansions among many other activities . His son Michael serves as manager of the company , and , after being passed over for a promotion , decides to leave both the company and his family . Just as he makes this decision , however , George Sr. is arrested by the Securities and Exchange Commission for defrauding investors and gross spending of the company 's money for " personal expenses " . His wife Lucille becomes CEO , and immediately names as the new president her extremely sheltered youngest son Buster , who proves ill @-@ equipped , as his only experience with business is a class he took concerning 18th century agrarian business . Furious at being passed over again , Michael secures another job with a rival company and plans on leaving his family behind for good . Realizing that they need Michael , the family asks him to come back and run the company , which Michael scoffs at until he sees how much the family means to his teenaged son George Michael . To keep the family together , Michael asks his self @-@ centered twin sister Lindsay , her husband Tobias and their daughter Maeby to live together in the Bluth model home with him and George Michael .

Throughout the first season , different characters struggle to change their identities . Buster works to escape from his mother 's control by bonding with brothers Michael and Gob as well as with love interest Lucille Austero , Lucille Bluth 's neighbor and chief social rival . George Michael nurses a forbidden crush on his cousin Maeby , while continually trying to meet his father 's expectations . Lindsay 's husband Tobias searches for work as an actor , with the aid of Carl Weathers . Michael falls in love with his screw @-@ up older brother Gob 's neglected girlfriend Marta , and is torn between being with her and putting " family first " . After seeing Michael physically fight with Gob , Marta realizes that they do not share the same family values and she leaves them both . To spite Buster , Lucille adopts a Korean son whom she calls " Annyong " after she mistakes the Korean word for " hello " as his name . Through an escalating series of dares , Gob gets married to a woman he just met , played by Will Arnett 's real @-@ life then @-@ wife Amy Poehler , but cannot get an annulment because he refuses to admit that he did not consummate the marriage . Kitty ,

George Sr. ' s former assistant and mistress , tries to blackmail the company . She is caught in the Bluth family yacht ' s explosion , as used in one of Gob ' s magic acts , but survives with a cooler full of damning evidence labeled " H Maddas " . After previous failed attempts , and a brief religious stint in Judaism , George Sr. finally escapes from prison by faking a heart attack . It is also revealed that George Sr. committed " light treason " by using the company to build mini @-@ palaces for Saddam Hussein in Iraq .

= = = Season two (2004 ? 05) = = =

Because of his father ' s latest prison break deception (a faked heart attack) , Michael decides to leave his family and move to Phoenix , Arizona with George Michael , but discovers that he cannot leave the state , due to the Bluth Company being under investigation and him having to go jail as a replacement for his father . Lucille appoints Gob the new Bluth Company president , but since Gob proves utterly incompetent , the position ' s real duties revert to Michael . During the rest of the season Gob serves as figurehead president ; Michael is still under scrutiny for George Sr. ' s illegal activity .

George Sr. is not , in fact , gone . After faking his death in Mexico by paying off the cops , George Sr. returns to the family model home , where George Michael discovers him and hides him in the attic . To protect his son from legal implications , Michael hides George Sr. in Gob ' s Aztec Tomb , orchestrates a diversion , and tells the family that George Sr. has escaped once more . Throughout the rest of the season , Michael sneaks George Sr. provisions , and George Sr. keeps tabs on the Bluth family through the ventilation system . George Sr. also faces onslaught from the outside world ; the press begins looking for him in Iraq , fumigators surround the house while he ' s still in the attic , and Kitty returns to steal a sample of his semen to make her own Bluth baby .

Buster meanwhile joins the army , but escapes serving in Iraq when his hand is bitten off by a loose seal (a play on " Lucille ") Gob mistakenly gave a taste for mammal flesh . Buster is refitted with a sharp hook , which he is known to brandish dangerously near his relatives ' faces . During Buster ' s long psychological recovery , he bonds with George Sr. ' s stoner twin brother Oscar , who moves in with Lucille in an attempt to rekindle a past love affair . Uncle Oscar slowly reveals himself as Buster ' s presumptive biological father . Eventually , George Sr. takes revenge on the adulterous Oscar and Lucille by kidnapping Oscar , knocking him unconscious , exchanging appearances with him , and sending him to prison in his place .

Lindsay and Tobias continue their disastrous open relationship . Lindsay tries ? but fails ? to secure a lover , while Tobias paints himself blue each night in a futile attempt to join the Blue Man Group . When Lindsay kicks him out of the house , Tobias disguises himself as a singing British nanny named " Mrs. Featherbottom " (an idea he gets from the film Mrs. Doubtfire) so he can watch over his daughter Maeby . The family sees right through this incompetent disguise , but they humor Tobias since ? in the guise of Mrs. Featherbottom ? he does their chores .

George Michael begins dating a deeply religious girl , Ann Veal , who encourages him to smash pop music CDs and to run for student body president against perennial favorite Steve Holt . Michael dislikes her and tries to disrupt the kids ' relationship , most notably by breaking up Ann and George Michael ' s pre @-@ engagement . Meanwhile , Maeby cons her way into an after school job as a film studio executive . When Maeby ' s studio remakes " Les Cousins Dangereux " , George Michael abandons Ann to pursue his crush on Maeby . George Michael and Maeby kiss while the living room of the model home collapses .

= = = Season three (2005 ? 06) = = =

Michael again searches for his runaway father , George Sr. Gob receives an invitation to a father / son reunion outing , and believes it to be George Sr. trying to contact him . In reality , the invitation was meant to reunite Gob with Steve Holt , son of Eve Holt , a girl Gob slept with in high school . Meanwhile , George Michael and Maeby deal with their previous kiss by avoiding each other .

In an attempt to remain in disguise , George Sr. joins the Blue Man Group . Michael discovers this

and arranges to have his father placed under house arrest . George Sr. claims that he was set up by an underground British group . Michael goes to Wee Britain , a fictional British @-@ themed city district , to investigate , and in the process meets a new love interest , Rita Leeds (Charlize Theron) . Michael and the audience are led to believe that Rita is a mole for the underground British group , working for a man named " Mr. F " . However , love @-@ struck Michael proposes to her , and the couple run off to wed . Finally , it is revealed that Rita is actually an " MRF " , or " mentally retarded female " . Despite Rita 's " condition " , the family pushes him to go forward with the marriage because Rita is wealthy and they want her money . Michael is not persuaded and gently ends the relationship just as he and Rita are about to walk down the aisle . Meanwhile , Tobias and Lindsay seek legal help from Bob Loblaw (Scott Baio) concerning their troubled marriage .

With the family 's retainer used up because of Lindsay 's and Tobias 's advances , Bob Loblaw chooses to no longer represent the Bluth family . Attorney Jan Eagleman offers to represent the family , on the condition that they participate in a mock trial in a new reality courtroom show called " Mock Trial with J. Reinhold " . Musical accompaniment for the show 's theme song and perceived jokes from testifying witnesses is provided by " William Hung And His Hung Jury " . Michael uses an illegal threat from prosecutor Wayne Jarvis to have the mock case " dismissed " . Gob and Franklin briefly appear in another courtroom show presided over by Bud Cort . Meanwhile , Maeby and George Michael perform a mock wedding for Alzheimer 's patients that is accidentally conducted by a real priest ; the two become legally married .

The family members are afraid to testify at the mock trial and at the real deposition ; Buster fakes a coma , Lindsay and Lucille fake entering rehab , and Gob flees the country to perform in a USO Tour in Iraq . The deceptions are all uncovered by the prosecution , and in Iraq Gob is arrested for inadvertently inciting an anti @-@ US riot . Buster and Michael travel to Iraq to rescue Gob , and while there , uncover evidence that the mini @-@ palaces George Sr. built in Iraq were actually ordered and paid for by the CIA for wiretapping purposes . After this discovery , the US government drops all of the charges against George Sr. In the general confusion , everyone except George Michael forgets Maeby 's sixteenth birthday .

To celebrate their victory in Iraq , the Bluths throw a shareholders ' party on the RMS Queen Mary . During preparation for the party , it is revealed that Lindsay was adopted , meaning that George Michael and Maeby are not blood relatives . At the party , the Bluth 's other adopted child , Annyong , reappears . He reveals that he is there to avenge the Bluth family 's theft of his grandfather 's frozen banana idea and the cause of his subsequent deportation , an event orchestrated many years earlier by Lucille Bluth . Annyong has turned over evidence implicating Lucille in the Bluth Company 's accounting scandals . Before the police arrive , Michael and George Michael flee on Gob 's yacht , the C @-@ Word , and depart to Cabo with half a million dollars in cashier 's checks , finally leaving the family to fend for themselves . However , it is revealed in the epilogue that George Sr. is also on the yacht , having lured his brother Oscar into taking his place once again . Also in the epilogue , Maeby tries to sell the television rights to the story of the Bluth family to Ron Howard , who tells her that he sees it as a movie rather than a series .

= = = Season four (2013) = = =

Filming for a revived fourth season began on August 7 , 2012 , seven years after the series had been canceled by Fox . The season consists of 15 new episodes , all debuting at the same time on Netflix on May 26 , 2013 in the United States , Canada , the United Kingdom , Ireland , Latin America , and the Nordic countries . Several actors who had recurring roles in the original series returned to reprise their roles , including Carl Weathers as himself , Henry Winkler as Barry Zuckerkorn , Ben Stiller as Tony Wonder , Mae Whitman as Ann Veal , Scott Baio as Bob Loblaw , Judy Greer as Kitty Sanchez , and Liza Minnelli as Lucille Austero ; while new characters are played by Debra Mooney , John Slattery , Tommy Tune , Terry Crews , Isla Fisher and John Krasinski . Kristen Wiig and Seth Rogen appear as Lucille and George Sr. , respectively , in flashbacks .

Each episode of the season occurs over approximately the same stretch of time , but focuses on a different character . Information on events depicted in a given episode is often partial and filled in a

later episode .

= = Reception = =

= = = Television ratings = = =

The show , while critically acclaimed , did not gain a sizable audience . According to the Nielsen ratings system , the show 's first season was the 120th most popular show among households and the 88th among viewers aged 18 to 49 , averaging 6 @. @ 2 million viewers .

U.S. ratings in the second season averaged about six million viewers , while the third season averaged about four million viewers . Fox announced that it would halt the production of the second season at eighteen episodes ? four episodes short of the planned season .

For the third season , Fox positioned the show on Mondays at 8 : 00 p.m. ET . Ratings dropped further than previous seasons . On November 9 , 2005 , Fox announced that the show would not be airing in November sweeps , and that they had cut the episode order for the third season from 22 to 13 . Fox ended up showing the last four episodes in a two @- @ hour timeslot ? directly opposite the opening ceremonies of the 2006 Winter Olympics . The series finale episode received 3 @. @ 43 million viewers .

= = = Critical response = = =

Throughout its original run , Arrested Development received overwhelming critical acclaim . It is widely regarded as one of the defining comedies of the 2000s and has been praised by many critics as one of the greatest comedies of all time . In 2007 , the show was listed as one of Time magazine 's " 100 Best TV Shows of All @- @ TIME " .

Tim Stack of Entertainment Weekly praised the series , saying " Is it beating a dead horse to once again state that this underappreciated gem is the best sitcom on TV ? Too bad . Arrested Development is the best sitcom on TV ! " .

David Bianculli from the New York Daily News stated " If you 're not watching this series on Fox , the least you can do is buy it on DVD . You 'll love it , and it 's such a dense show (in the best sense of the word) that it rewards repeated viewing . Like Scrubs and the British version of The Office , it is the sort of show that truly deserves to be seen uninterrupted , several episodes at a time , for maximum enjoyment . The laughs @- @ per @- @ minute quotient here is insanely high , making it great value as a home library purchase . " .

Alison Powell of The Guardian said " As Hollywood agents worry about the demise of the town 's lowing cash cow , the multi @- @ camera , staged sitcom , here to save the day is Arrested Development , a farce of such blazing wit and originality , that it must surely usher in a new era in comedy . " .

Gillian Flynn of Entertainment Weekly named Arrested Development the best television show of 2005 and said in her review that " As oddball as Arrested is , it 's also humane . A flawless cast ? from Will Arnett 's breathy , bombastic Gob to Jessica Walter 's boozy Lucille ? grounds it , aided by Ron Howard 's affable narration . Of course , the center of sensibility is good son Michael (Jason Bateman) and his even better son , George Michael (Michael Cera) . Bateman and Cera give the best reacts around ? the former all weary exasperation , the latter adorably bunny @- @ stunned . Together , they 're the sweetest , awkwardest straight men on the smartest , most shockingly funny series on TV ... which is likely canceled , despite six Emmy wins . It 's a perversion not even the Bluths deserve . " In 2012 , Entertainment Weekly listed the show at No. 2 in the " 25 Best Cult TV Shows from the Past 25 Years " , praising its " fast , delirious , interlocking jokes that don 't pander to the masses ; winky gags (e.g. fake preview scenes for the following week 's episode) ; and a cast of absurd characters " .

= = = Accolades = = =

In 2004 , the first season received seven Emmy Award nominations with five wins . It won for Outstanding Comedy Series , Outstanding Directing for a Comedy Series , Outstanding Casting for a Comedy Series , Outstanding Single @-@ Camera Picture Editing for a Comedy Series and Outstanding Writing for a Comedy Series , for the pilot episode written by Mitchell Hurwitz and directed by brothers Anthony and Joe Russo . Jeffrey Tambor was nominated that year for Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Comedy Series .

In 2005 , the second season received eleven Emmy nominations in seven categories with one win . Notable nominations included Outstanding Comedy Series , Outstanding Lead Actor in a Comedy Series (Jason Bateman) , Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Comedy Series (Jeffrey Tambor) , Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series (Jessica Walter) as well as three nominations for Outstanding Writing for a Comedy Series , in which it won for " Righteous Brothers " , written by Mitchell Hurwitz and Jim Vallely .

In 2006 , the third season received four Emmy nominations , for Outstanding Comedy Series , Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Comedy Series (Will Arnett) , Outstanding Single @-@ Camera Picture Editing for a Comedy Series and Outstanding Writing for a Comedy Series for the series finale " Development Arrested " .

In 2013 , the fourth season received three Emmy nominations , for Outstanding Actor in a Comedy Series (Jason Bateman) , Outstanding Music Composition for a Series (Original Dramatic Score) and Outstanding Single @-@ camera Picture Editing for a Comedy Series .

Other awards include :

The 2004 TV Land Award for " Future Classic " , the first recognition the series received . The award presentation is included on the season one DVD release .

The 2004 Television Critics Association Awards for Outstanding Comedy and Outstanding New Program , and the 2005 award for Outstanding Achievement in Comedy .

The 2005 Golden Globe Award for Best Performance by an Actor in a Television Series ? Musical or Comedy for Jason Bateman .

The 2004 Writers Guild of America Award for Episodic Comedy , for the episode " Pier Pressure " , written by Mitchell Hurwitz and Jim Vallely .

The 2004 Satellite Award for Best Television Series ? Comedy or Musical , along with Jeffrey Tambor and Jessica Walter for Best Performance by an Actor and Actress in a Supporting Role in a Series ? Comedy or Musical . In 2005 , Jason Bateman and Portia de Rossi won for Best Actor and Actress in a Series ? Comedy or Musical . Jason Bateman also won the same award the following ceremony .

The 2005 Young Artist Award for Best Performance in a TV Series (Comedy or Drama) ? Supporting Young Actress for Alia Shawkat .