

= Grey 's Anatomy (season 2) =

The second season of the American television medical drama Grey 's Anatomy commenced airing on the American Broadcasting Company (ABC) on September 25 , 2005 , and concluded on May 15 , 2006 . The season was produced by Touchstone Television , in association with Shondaland production company and The Mark Gordon Company , the showrunner being Shonda Rhimes . Actors Ellen Pompeo , Sandra Oh , Katherine Heigl , Justin Chambers , and T.R. Knight reprised their roles as surgical interns Meredith Grey , Cristina Yang , Izzie Stevens , Alex Karev , and George O 'Malley , respectively . Previous main cast members Chandra Wilson , James Pickens , Jr . , Isaiah Washington , and Patrick Dempsey also returned , while Kate Walsh , who began the season in a recurring capacity , was promoted to series regular status , after appearing in seven episodes as a guest star .

The season continued to focus on the surgical residency of five young interns as they try to balance the challenges of their competitive careers with the difficulties that determine their personal lives . It was set in the fictional Seattle Grace Hospital , located in the city of Seattle , Washington . Whereas the first season put the emphasis mainly on the unexpected impact the surgical field has on the main characters , the second season provides a detailed perspective on the personal background of each character , focusing on the consequences that their decisions have on their careers . Throughout the season , new story lines were introduced , including the love triangle between Meredith Grey , Derek Shepherd , and Addison Montgomery , the main arc of the season . Also heavily developed was the story line involving Izzie Stevens ' relationship with patient Denny Duquette , which resulted in critical acclaim and positive fan response .

The season kept its original airtime from the previous season , taking over Boston Legal 's time slot at 10 : 00 pm on Sundays , while airing as a lead @-@ out to the already successful ABC series , Desperate Housewives . It contained 27 episodes , out of which five were originally produced for the first season . In addition to the regular episodes , two clip shows recapped previous events of the show , both narrated by Steven W. Bailey in his recently introduced role as Joe the Bartender . " Straight to Heart " aired one week before the winter @-@ holiday hiatus ended , recapping the most memorable events of the first season and the first half of the second . " Under Pressure " aired before the twenty @-@ third episode . The season finale was conceived as a three @-@ part story arc , the first of this kind in the series , and was scheduled to air on two consecutive nights .

The show ended its second season with 21 @.@ 07 million total viewers and a 6 @.@ 9 ratings share in the 18 ? 49 demographic . The season opened to critical acclaim , as most agreed on a significant improvement in story lines . The season saw numerous cast and crew members receive awards and nominations at ceremonies like the 58th Primetime Emmy Awards and the 64th Golden Globe Awards . Katherine Heigl and Chandra Wilson were the cast members with the most nominations for their portrayals of Izzie Stevens and Miranda Bailey , respectively . The series was chosen in the top ten for several 2006 " best of television " lists , including USA Today , San Jose Mercury News , TV Guide , and Orlando Sentinel .

= = Production = =

= = = Crew = = =

The season was produced by Touchstone Television , currently ABC Studios , in association with ShondaLand Production Company and The Mark Gordon Company . Shonda Rhimes returned as the series ' showrunner and executive producer . She also continued her position from the first two seasons as one of the most prominent members of the writing staff . Betsy Beers , Mark Gordon , Mark Wilding , and Rob Corn returned as executive producers , along with James D. Parriott , Peter Horton , and Krista Vernoff , who have been in this position since the inception of the series . Parriott , who also served as an episodic writer , left the series at the conclusion of the season . Joan Rater and Tony Phelan continued to serve as co @-@ executive producers , with Rater being

a supervising producer as well . Stacy McKee , who would be promoted to co @-@ executive producer for the third season , returned to the series as a producer and a member of the writing staff . Having written three episodes for the first season , Rhimes returned as a writer for five episodes . Parriott , Vernoff , Phelan , Rater , Wilding and Mimi Schmir were the most prominent members of the writing staff , with Parriott , Phelan , Rater , Wilding , Clack writing two episodes and Schmir producing the script for three . Gabrielle Stanton and Harry Werksman , Jr. worked together for the writing of two episodes , after having written one episode for the series in the past .

The season includes the first episode to be written Zoanne Clack , who would become one the series ' main writers , as well as a co @-@ producer and executive story editor . Other writers include Kip Koenig , Blythe Robe and Elizabeth Klaviter . Executive producer Peter Horton returned to the series to direct five episodes for the season , after writing two episodes in the second season . Rob Corn directed two episodes , whereas Adam Davidson is credited for writing three episodes , his last ones in the series . Among the other directors are Wendy Stanzler , Mark Tinker , Jeff Melman , Jessica Yu , Lesli Linka Glatter , Michael Dinner , Dan Minahan , David Paymer , Julie Anne Robinson , Tricia Brock , and Seith Mann . Danny Lux continued his position as the main music composer for the series , while Herbert Davis , Tim Suhrstedt and Adam Kane served as the season 's cinematography directors . Susan Vaill and Edward Ornelas resumed their positions as editors , joined by Briana London , who left the series after nine episodes . Linda Lowy and John Brace , responsible for the casting since the beginning of the series , returned as casting team members . After the departure of Laurence Bennett , the production design team was taken over by Donald Lee Harris , with Amy B. Ancona and Brandee Dell 'Aringa joining for ten episodes each .

The series set decoration crew was led by Karen Bruck , whereas the costume design department was led by Linda M. Bass , who would leave the show at the conclusion of the season , following her being replaced by Mimi Melgaard . The make @-@ up department was led by head Norman T. Leavitt , along with assistant make @-@ up artist Brigitte Bugayong . The special make @-@ up effects team consisted of Thomas R. Burman , Bari Dreiband @-@ Burman and Bart Mixon . Arleen Chavez was the key hair stylist for the second season . Other make @-@ up artists that contributed in the third season were Vincent Van Dyke , Allan Holt and Christopher Payne . The series production managers were unit production managar Carla Corwin and post @-@ production supervisor Joy Ramos , who both depart from the series at the conclusion of the season , being replaced by unit production managar Jeff Rafner , production manager Chad Alber and production executive Tim Herbstrith . Second assistant directors since the inception of the series , Laura Petticord , Shawn Hanley and Chris Hayden returned to the series for the second season . The art department consisted of construction foreman Bob Huffman , set dressers Stacy Doran and Bruce Purcell , leadman Joseph W. Grafmuller , property master Angela M. Whiting , labor foreman Verne Hammond , art department coordinator Angela Trujillo , construction coordinator Curt Jones , set designer Yvonne Garnier @-@ Hackl , stage foreman Tom Talley and paint foreman Alex Thompson . Joining the art department were set painter Shelley Adajian and assistant property masters Andrew Allen @-@ King and Jeanne Bueche . However , the three new additions left the series after the production of the season finale , being temporarily replaced by Nicole Dome and T. Scott Elliott , who joined the team for two episodes . Sound editor Anthony Toretto , additional foley artist Mark McBryde , foley mixer Stacey Michaels , production sound mixer Brydon Baker III , foley artist Noel Vought , boom operator Kevin Maloney and sound re @-@ recording mixers Todd Langer , Don Digirolamo , Pete Elia and Kurt Kassulke , the original members of the sound department , all returned for the second season . Production sound mixer Veda Campbell also returned , but departed after four episodes into the season , whereas assistant sound mixer Douglas J. Schulman was added to the crew for the first ten episodes of the season . Joining the production team in the sound crew were boom operator Kevin Maloney , sound mixer Cameron Hamza , Robert Marts and Mick Davies , with both Marts and Davies leaving the show after two episodes . The special effects team , which was led by coordinator Jason Gustafson , consisted of make @-@ up artists Anthony Julio , who had been part of the production crew since the beginning of the series , and special effects foreman Ken Rudell . Part of the visual effects team were computer graphic artist Richard Also , visual effects supervisor Rick Cortes and matte artist Kristin Johnson . Whereas

Cortes and Johnson joined the crew close to the season finale , Also was the only member of the visual effects team to have been in the crew since the beginning of the series .

= = = Writing and filming = = =

The season was primarily filmed in Los Angeles , California . Fisher Plaza , which is the headquarters building for the media company Fisher Communications and Fisher 's ABC affiliated Komo radio and television stations for Seattle , is used for some exterior shots of Seattle Grace Mercy West Hospital , such as air ambulances landing on the Komo Television newscopter 's helipad . This puts Seattle Grace conveniently close to the Space Needle , which is directly across the street from Fisher Plaza , the Seattle Monorail , and other local landmarks . However , the hospital used for most other exterior and many interior shots is not in Seattle , are shot at the VA Sepulveda Ambulatory Care Center in North Hills , California . Most scenes are primarily taped in Los Feliz , Los Angeles , at the Prospect Studios , and the set occupies two stages , including the hospital pieces , but some outside scenes are shot at the Warren G. Magnuson Park in Seattle . Several props used are genuine medical supplies , including the MRI machine . Prior to being cast , Sara Ramirez was seen by ABC executives , in her Broadway performance of Spamalot , which garnered their attention . Due to their admiration , the network offered Ramirez a role on any ABC television series , of her choice , which ultimately led in her choosing Grey 's Anatomy . Ramirez further explained that at her initial audition , the producers liked her , and had intentions to add her to the show , but did not know who to cast her as . She also said she was in awe of how the executives said , " Pick a show , any show " , a statement she deemed rare . Ramirez 's character was given recurring status in the second season , having been conceived as a love interest for George O 'Malley . At Torres ' initial appearance on the show , she was disliked by fans , due to her getting in the way of O 'Malley and Grey 's relationship . When asked of this , Torres said : " You do run across a lot of people who are extremely invested in that story line . Obviously , I 've heard some negative stuff . " Discussing Izzie Stevens ' relationship with Alex Karev , Katherine Heigl described her character as naive enough to believe she can save him , assessing that : " Even when Alex was a complete dirtbag to her , she forgave him and gave him another chance . And he really screwed her over . " Writer Stacy McKee described Izzie 's moving on from Alex to patient Denny Duquette as " karma " , as Alex previously treated Izzie badly , yet as he begins to realize his true feelings , he is forced to watch her embark on a romance with Denny , regarded by her as " undeniably handsome and totally charming " . Series writer Blythe Robe commented on Izzie and Denny : " I love the way Izzie lights up when she 's around him . I love their relationship because it 's so pure and honest and completely game free . " Writer Elizabeth Klaviter noted at this time the way Izzie " seems to be sacrificing her reputation because of her feelings for Denny . " When Izzie deliberately worsened Denny 's condition to move him up the transplant list , series writer Mark Wilding questioned the morality of the actions , asking : " Is Izzie bad for doing it ? Is she tremendously irresponsible ? She cut the wire for love so does that make her action understandable ? " Series creator Shonda Rhimes discussed costuming choices in the scene which saw the interns gather around Denny 's deathbed , explaining : " Meredith and George and Cristina and Callie and Alex are all dressed , not for a prom , but for a funeral . Everyone in dark colors , everyone dressed somberly . As if they were in mourning . Only Izzie is in happy pink . Only Izzie looks like she didn 't know this was coming . "

Peter Horton , expressed that his plan of developing Chandra Wilson 's character , Miranda Bailey , was to focus on the similarities between her and the actress , noting that " there 's not a mean bone in her body , but she 's solid and steady , like a rock . " Wilson herself noted a significant evolution in her character 's personality , noting a transition from the cold attitude that was characteristic to her in the past , to a maternal outlook on her interns . She also noted a number of similarities between her and her character , describing how considers Miranda Bailey an alter ego of hers , rather than someone living inside her . Wilson also assessed that being a real @-@ life human is what makes Bailey an appreciated character : " She gets to be flawed , she gets to be tired , she can be cranky , she can be grumpy . " Showrunner Shonda Rhimes explained that the idea of Miranda Bailey having

a child was developed after Chandra Wilson had already been pregnant for six months . Cast member Kate Walsh deemed Wilson 's portrayal of her character " sweet and wonderful " , naming her a professional : " She makes you be a better actor , just by being there . " She also described her performance during her character 's labor as " heart @-@ breaking , tender , powerful and wonderful " , noting how she managed to transform the strong character into " a weak woman , struggling to fight the unusual situation " . Fellow cast member James Pickens , Jr. described Wilson 's portrayal of Miranda Bailey as " a breath of fresh air , literally and figuratively " , also noting how the force she delivers is mainly due to the start of her career being in theater . Horton also described the production process of the two @-@ part story arc , which he stated to have been planning since the beginning of the series . He stated that the plot of the episodes had to " fill the demands of the Super Bowl " , which was scheduled to air in the same night : " We really wanted something different and Shonda [Rhimes] came up with the idea of this bomb , that we found simply outstanding ! " Visual effects supervisor Scott Milnex noted how " breaking down the story boards was really the key to getting all the departments to work together " . He also assessed that the necessity to use Primacord , an element they had been trying to avoid , for the explosion scene proved excessively dangerous , and was ultimately replaced with wood and clothing material . He described the filming process by emphasizing the transition from mannequin to the real actor : " When we filmed it , there was a moment , a fraction of a second , when we changed the body with the actor . "

= = Cast = =

The second season had ten roles receiving star billing , out of whom nine were returning from the first season . All the actors who appear as series regulars portray physicians from the fictional Seattle Grace Hospital , specialized in surgery . Ellen Pompeo acted as Meredith Grey , the protagonist and the narrator of the series , a surgical intern who struggles to balance the difficulties of the competitive career she has chosen , with her troubled personal background . Sandra Oh portrayed highly competitive intern Cristina Yang , who suffers a miscarriage just as she starts accepting her upcoming motherhood . Katherine Heigl played intern Izzie Stevens , in a continuous struggle to be looked upon as a doctor , not the model she used to be . Justin Chambers acted as Alex Karev , who begins to develop an emotional side of his personality , after being introduced as arrogant and selfish . T.R. Knight played the role of intern George O 'Malley , whose insecurity and lack of self @-@ confidence evolve due to his unshared feelings for Meredith Grey . Chandra Wilson portrayed surgical resident and brilliant general surgeon Miranda Bailey , the mentor of the five interns , whose rudeness and cold attitude earns her the nickname " The Nazi " . James Pickens , Jr. portrayed Seattle Grace Hospital 's Chief of Surgery , Richard Webber , whose relationship with Meredith Grey 's mother , which occurred twenty @-@ one years ago , threatens to ruin his marriage . Isaiah Washington played the role of attending physician and cardiothoracic surgeon Preston Burke , who learns that Cristina , with whom he had a sexual relationship , is pregnant with his child . Patrick Dempsey portrayed attending neurosurgeon Derek Shepherd , whose relationship with intern Meredith Grey has been the focal point of the series since its inception . Although originally conceived as a guest star with a five @-@ episode story arc , Kate Walsh decided to extend her contract following positive reviews from critics and fans , resulting in her getting promoted to series regular status . Being the first addition to the original cast from the first season , Walsh began receiving star billing in the seventh episode of the season , portraying obstetrician @-@ gynaecologist and world @-@ class neonatal surgeon Addison Montgomery Shepherd , who comes in Seattle seeking reconciliation with her estranged husband , Derek Shepherd .

Numerous supporting characters have been given expansive and recurring appearances in the progressive story line . Sara Ramirez appeared in a nine episode arc in the season , portraying orthopedic surgical resident Callie Torres , introduced and developed as a love interest for the character of George O 'Malley . Steven W. Bailey is introduced in the recurring role of Joe , the Bartender , often being portrayed as a confidant of the surgeons of Seattle Grace Hospital . Chris O 'Donnell portrayed Veterinary physician Finn Dandridge , who became a love interest for Meredith Grey . Renowned surgeon Ellis Grey , Meredith 's mother , who is suffering from Alzheimer 's

disease , continues her recurring role from the first season , being portrayed by Kate Burton . Brooke Smith portrayed Erica Hahn , a cardiothoracic surgeon at Seattle Presbyterian Hospital , who is revealed to have been a rival of Preston Burke ever since they attended medical school together . Jeffrey Dean Morgan appears in six episodes throughout the season , portraying patient Denny Duquette , who begins a relationship with Izzie Stevens , but ultimately dies following an unsuccessful heart transplant surgery . Loretta Devine acted as Adele Webber , Richard 's wife , who is revealed to have been aware of her husband 's affair since its inception . Other guest stars include Sarah Utterback in the role of nurse Olivia Harper , love interest of both George O 'Malley and Alex Karev , Kali Rocha portraying fifth @-@ year resident Sydney Heron , who replaces Miranda Bailey temporarily when she takes a maternity leave , Jeff Perry portraying Meredith Grey 's father , Thatcher Grey , Mare Winningham in the role of Susan Grey , Tsai Chin in the role of Helen Yang Rubenstein , Cristina 's mother , Mandy Siegfried portraying Molly Grey Thompson , Meredith 's half @-@ sister and Tessa Thompson portraying Camille Travis , Richard Webber 's niece , Christina Ricci portraying paramedic Hannah Davies , and Kyle Chandler in the role of Dylan Young , head of the bomb squad . Eric Dane , who would be promoted to a series regular in the third season , appeared in the eighteenth episode , portraying attending physician , otolaryngologist and plastic surgeon Mark Sloan , Addison Montgomery 's former lover , whose affair with her is presented as the reason behind the estrangement of her husband , Derek Shepherd .

= = Reception = =

= = = Critical response = = =

The season opened up to critical acclaim with many critics calling it " one of the best shows on TV " and was included in the top ten for numerous 2006 " best of television " lists . Also the fame of the show skyrocketed during the season The A.V. Club called the show a " pokemon " and " one of the best TV shows around , burning through plot points at a furious clip , swooning romanticism , at embracing the kind of deeply earnest , intensely felt romance that made the show 's relationships so great . Meredith 's famous " Pick me , choose me , love me " speech is corny , to be sure , but it 's got tremendous rhythm and absolute conviction ... season two of Grey 's was a comet . " Todd Gilchrist of IGN Entertainment expressed hope in the further development of the series , noting the complex backgrounds of each character as being the series ' focal point . He noted that the ensemble , composed of " countless comely females and enough strong , competitive males " remains outstanding in prime time , being iconic , due to the vast interpretations regarding the main cast . Whereas Gilchrist acknowledged that the show gives the impression of it being only for women , he stated that he can attest to its universal , equal @-@ opportunity appeal , assessing that the show " explores the medical world with both a sense of testosterone @-@ fueled intensity and estrogen @-@ laced sensitivity " and deserved to have viewers from both genders , championing its merits . In response to the bomb story arc , he called the two episodes " juicy " , while assessing that they " followed a story line that not only explained the series up to that point , but featured all of the characters in their more or less purest form " . Gilchrist provided an outlook on each character , describing Grey as a " prodigiously talented but insecure surgeon , waylaid by her love for attending Derek Shepherd " , while stating that Yang , " an aggressively ambitious intern " lacks knowledge on any topic , except medicine , comparing her to boyfriend Burke , described as her opposite . In response to George O 'Malley 's story line , he noted how his sensitive personality constantly results in difficulty in his path to becoming a proper surgeon . He also expressed excitement in the doors opened by the previous season 's cliffhanger , seeing the arrival of Montgomery (Walsh) as " certainly speaking to the show 's focus on relationships over the nuts and bolts of being a surgeon " , while praising Rhimes for continuing to " merge those disparate elements in the way that does , or at least should be a source of enthusiasm for both men and women , creating an atmosphere both professional and intimately personal , often at the same time " .

Noting the realism in the writing for the series , Gilchrist stated : " It 's as if Rhimes and Co.

harnessed the sublime and the mundane of our daily experiences , that strange sense of drama that emerges from even the most unimportant daily conflicts , and it transported it on a world that is legitimately fraught with life and death decisions . " However , he expressed disappointment in the end of the second season , which he deemed surprisingly less strong , compared to the " powerful " first half and the " immaculate " first season , describing Stevens ' " awkward and self @-@ destructive " relationship with a patient as a way to " slow episodes to a screeching halt with maudlin and painfully underdeveloped turns towards melodrama " , while expressing the predictability of Duquette 's death . Gilchrist stated in response to Stevens ' development in the last part of the second season : " Izzie 's descent into abject hysteria , which followed her season @-@ long sanctimoniousness about everything , actually made me want something terrible to happen to her too . " He described how some episodes were not among the show 's strongest , noting that the some plot lines created poignancy , and connected in an unfamiliar way .

The reviews have stood the test of time and the season still remains a huge critical favorite . Entertainment Weekly reviewing the tenth season of the show acknowledged that , " the second season is still the show 's best season to date . " The site added , " I do want to talk about what season 10 could learn from what I believe is the show 's best season to date : season 2 . " calling in all the signature elements of the show that it did the best with listing all the best moments from the season , " the elevator " , " the walkway " , " Joe 's bar " , Meredith 's " Pick me " speech " . and the " memorable patients " adding , " I want two people stuck on a pole (Into You Like a Train) or two Amish best friends having to say goodbye , and I want those stories to be given ample time to resonate . More than anything , I want them to affect our doctors in heartbreaking and beautiful ways . "

Eyder Peralta of The Houston Chronicle was critical of Izzie 's ethics in cutting Denny 's LVAD wire , writing that she " should not be practising medicine " and stating : " That 's the reason I don 't watch Grey 's Anatomy , anymore , because the super hot blond chick can make an earth @-@ shattering , fatal decision and she doesn 't get canned . " Regarding the second season , Kevin Carr from 7M Pictures said " Rhimes really just put Scrubs , E.R. , Sex and the City and even a dash of The Love Boat in a blender and poured out Grey 's Anatomy . " Also in regard to the second season , Christopher Monfette of IGN TV said " [...] The second season of this medical drama expertly wove its signature elements of complex relationships , whimsical banter and challenging life @-@ lessons - all to a montage @-@ fetish , indie @-@ rock soundtrack " .

== Awards and nominations ==

In 2006 , the series won the Golden Globe for " Best Drama Series " . Sandra Oh won the 2005 Golden Globe Award for " Best Supporting Actress in a Series , Miniseries , or TV Film " and the 2006 Screen Actors Guild Award for " Outstanding Performance by a Female Actor in a Drama Series " for her portrayal of Cristina Yang in the show 's second season . Ellen Pompeo and Patrick Dempsey were also nominated for the Best Actress in a Drama Series and Best Actor in a Drama Series respectively at the 63rd Golden Globe Awards . In 2006 , casting directors Linda Lowy and John Brace won a Primetime Emmy Award for " Outstanding Casting for a Drama Series " . The Grey 's Anatomy cast won Best Ensemble in a Television Series at the 2006 Satellite Awards . At the Screen Actors Guild Awards , the cast was nominated for " Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble in a Drama Series " . Isaiah Washington was awarded " Outstanding Actor in a Drama Series " at the NAACP Image Awards in 2006 . Krista Vernoff received an Emmy nomination for Outstanding Writing for a Drama Series for the sixth episode of the season . The sixteenth and seventeenth episodes of the season secured writer Shonda Rhimes a 2006 Primetime Emmy Award nomination in the Outstanding Writing for a Drama Series category .

== Ratings ==

The first five episodes of the season were initially planned to be within the first season with the episode " Bring the Pain " as the season one finale . According to Rhimes , after airing the ninth

episode of the show , the ratings , the timeslots and the really great audience meant that they have to end the season with that episode , and the cliffhanger with the coming of Derek 's estranged wife fit perfectly . The season received positive critics and reception , and this season performed better than the previous one . Due to the success of the first season , Grey 's Anatomy took over the Sunday night timeslot along with Desperate Housewives , replacing Boston Legal . The second season averaged 21 @. @ 07 million viewers , making it the highest @- @ rated season of the series to date . It was ranked the fifth in the 2005 @- @ 2006 television season . The season also includes the series ' highest @- @ rated episode , " It 's the End of the World " which was watched by 37 @. @ 88 million viewers .

= = Episodes = =

= = DVD release = =

The second season was officially released on DVD in Region 1 on September 12 , 2006 , almost two weeks before the third season premiere which aired on September 21 , 2006 . Under the title Grey 's Anatomy : The Complete Second Season ? Uncut , the box set consists of episodes with Dolby Digital 5 @. @ 1 surround sound and widescreen format . It also contained extras available only on DVD , including extended episodes , interviews with cast and crew members , footage from behind the scenes and unaired scenes cut from the aired episodes . The same set was released in Region 4 on January 10 , 2007 , four months after its original release in the United States , whereas its first release date in Region 2 was May 28 , 2007 , being made available first in the United Kingdom . The UK set contained the last twenty @- @ two episodes of the season , due to the first five being released on the first season DVD . The season has not been released on Blu @- @ ray disc in any region . The DVD box set is currently no . 708 in Movies and TV on Amazon.com and no . 2670 in Film and TV on Amazon.co.uk.