

# SEASON 1

		SEASON 1	1965 - 1966	P	1-8	10
EPISODE # EPISODE TITLE			AIRDATE	To the		
Disc 1	1	Mr. Big [Pilot Episode] with Audio Commentary by • Show Co-Creator Mel Brooks	Sept. 18, 1965			
	2 3	• Show Co-Creator Buck Henry Diplomat's Daughter School Days	Sept. 25, 1965 Oct. 02, 1965			
	4 5 6	Our Man in Toyland  Now You See Him, Now You Don't  Washington 4, Indians 3	Oct. 09, 1965 Oct. 16, 1965 Oct. 23, 1965	Disc 4	24 25	Stakeout on Blue Mist Mountain March 05, The Amazing Harry Hoo March 12,
	7	KAOS in Control The Day Smart Turned Chicken	Oct. 30, 1965 Nov. 06, 1965		26 27 28	Hubert's Unfinished Symphony March 19, Ship of Spies, Part I April 02, 19 Ship of Spies, Part II April 09, 19
Disc 2	9 10 11	Satan Place Our Man in Leotards Too Many Chiefs	Nov. 13, 1965 Nov. 20, 1965 Nov. 27, 1965		29 30	Shipment to Beirut April 23, 19 The Last One in Is a Rotten Spy May 07, 19
	12 13 14	My Nephew the Spy Aboard the Orient Express	Dec. 04, 1965 Dec. 11, 1965	Disc 5	I II	Bonus Features:  Buck Henry Interview  Featurette – "The Secret History of Get Smart"
	15 16	Weekend Vampire Survival of the Fattest Double Agent	Dec. 18, 1965 Dec. 25, 1965 Jan. 08, 1966		ш	TV Appearances and Spots  A. The Bill Dana Show, 1964  B. The Andy Williams Show, 1965
Disc 3	17	Kisses for KAOS with Audio Commentary by Barbara Feldon (Agent 99)	Jan. 15, 1966			C. Top Brass Hair Care Commercial, 1964  D. NBC Fall Season Preview, 1965
LA	18 19 20	The Dead Spy Scrawls  Back to the Old Drawing Board  All in the Mind	Jan. 22, 1966 Jan. 29, 1966 Feb. 05, 1966		īV	F. Get Smart Show Promo - #2, 1965 Bloopers
7 of and	21 22 23	Dear Diary Smart, the Assassin I'm Only Human	Feb. 12, 1966 Feb. 19, 1966 Feb. 26, 1966		V	Get Smart. Reunion Seminar, 2003 Interactive Bonus Feature "The Chief's Office"



ooking back with the clarity of hindsight, the success of *Get Smart* seems never to have been in doubt. Indeed, from the safe distance of some 40 years, one is tempted to think of the show's first season as classic television in waiting, an icon even before it debuted in 1965.

But back then, a prime-time television comedy that found a way to laugh at the grim reality of the Cold War - a spy show that dared spoof that model of clandestine modernity, James Bond - would have been considered a somewhat less than sure candidate for popular success.

Even the inclusion of Mel Brooks and Buck Henry as the show's co-creators would have raised the pulse rates of few television executives at the time. Brooks, then an ex-writer for Sid Caesar's Your Show of Shows, had not yet penned The Producers when he was approached with the concept for Get Smart by Daniel Melnick, former head of programming at ABC. Melnick suggested he work with Buck Henry, a talented, but relatively unknown newcomer to television.

Despite ABC's initial interest in the project, the pilot script failed to convince the network to proceed with the show. Once ABC backed out, Melnick and his partners in Talent Associates, David Susskind and Leonard Stern, bought back the rights to the show and took it to network competitor NBC.

For the show's lead, NBC executive Grant Tinker recommended a stand-up comedian the network had under contract, Don Adams. A television variety show veteran with a knack for character voices, Adams had the physical agility and acerbic wit required for the role of Maxwell Smart. And, as it happened, Adams had long before developed a house detective

character named Byron Glick, whose over-the-top persona would share much in common with the daring, but often daunted, Max.

In casting for Smart's female counterpart, the team was in search of an actress with the beauty, intelligence and charisma to hold her own in a man's world. In the far-less liberated world of 1960s America, it was a part few actresses had been asked to play.

"I've always been surprised when young women come up to me and say that my character was a positive role model for them," said Barbara Feldon in an interview taped for the Get Smart DVDs, "the role seemed quite traditional to me at the time." It was Feldon's unique on-camera personality as Agent 99 that allowed her to create a character that was, then, quite unusual – a woman completely fulfilled by her career and still able to unconditionally adore the object of her affection, Maxwell Smart.

Once the cameras rolled, Adams and Feldon discovered a natural rapport. "We had barely met the first day, we'd said hello, and that was it," recalls Feldon, "We stood on our mark and did our first scenes and it just came together...that's the way it would be from that moment on."

The only episode shot in black and white, the completed pilot episode won enthusiastic praise from both the network and critics, and won an impressive 23.7 Nielsen share when it premiered on September 18, 1965. The show found itself among the top 10 is its first week and continued to build an audience that was both loyal and substantial throughout its first season.





Inevitably, the show's trademark gags became quickly ingrained in the popular culture. T-shirts and lunch boxes spelled out catchphrases like, "Sorry about that, Chief," and "Missed it by that much." Elementary school students across America fashioned their own "cones of silence" and pretended to speak into their shoes. (Legend has it that Brooks created the "Shoe Phone" after once distractedly attempting to answer his own footwear.)

No less iconic were the show's quirky supporting characters. Actor Dick Gautier appeared as Hymie, the tender-hearted killer robot, sent by KAOS to eliminate Max, but converted to the CONTROL cause. CONTROL Agents 44 and 13 (played by Victor French and Dave Ketchum, respectively) gave the phrase "deep cover" new meaning. And Leonard Strong, as "The Craw," added immeasurably to the show's magnetic appeal.

The influence that Get Smart has had on entertainment in America has only grown clearer as the years have passed. For many thousands of fans, the show continues to represent a high point in television - funny without rancor...outrageous without offense.

It's our hope that revisiting these episodes now on DVD will be a rewarding experience for you.

Rory Mach is a Producer and Writer in Northern Virginia.

# **GET SMART. SEASON 1**

DVD Executive Producer: Paul Brownstein DVD Series Producers: Jeffrey Peisch, Angela Cella

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Our gratitude to BARBARA FELDON for her inspiration and participation in our DVD.

Extra Special Thanks to: Mel Brooks Buck Henry Hugh M. Hefner Bernie Kopell Eric McCormack Leonard Stern Andy Williams

## Special Thanks to:

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# For Giant Interactive: DVD Production, Authoring and Design

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Liner Notes: RORY MACH

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