

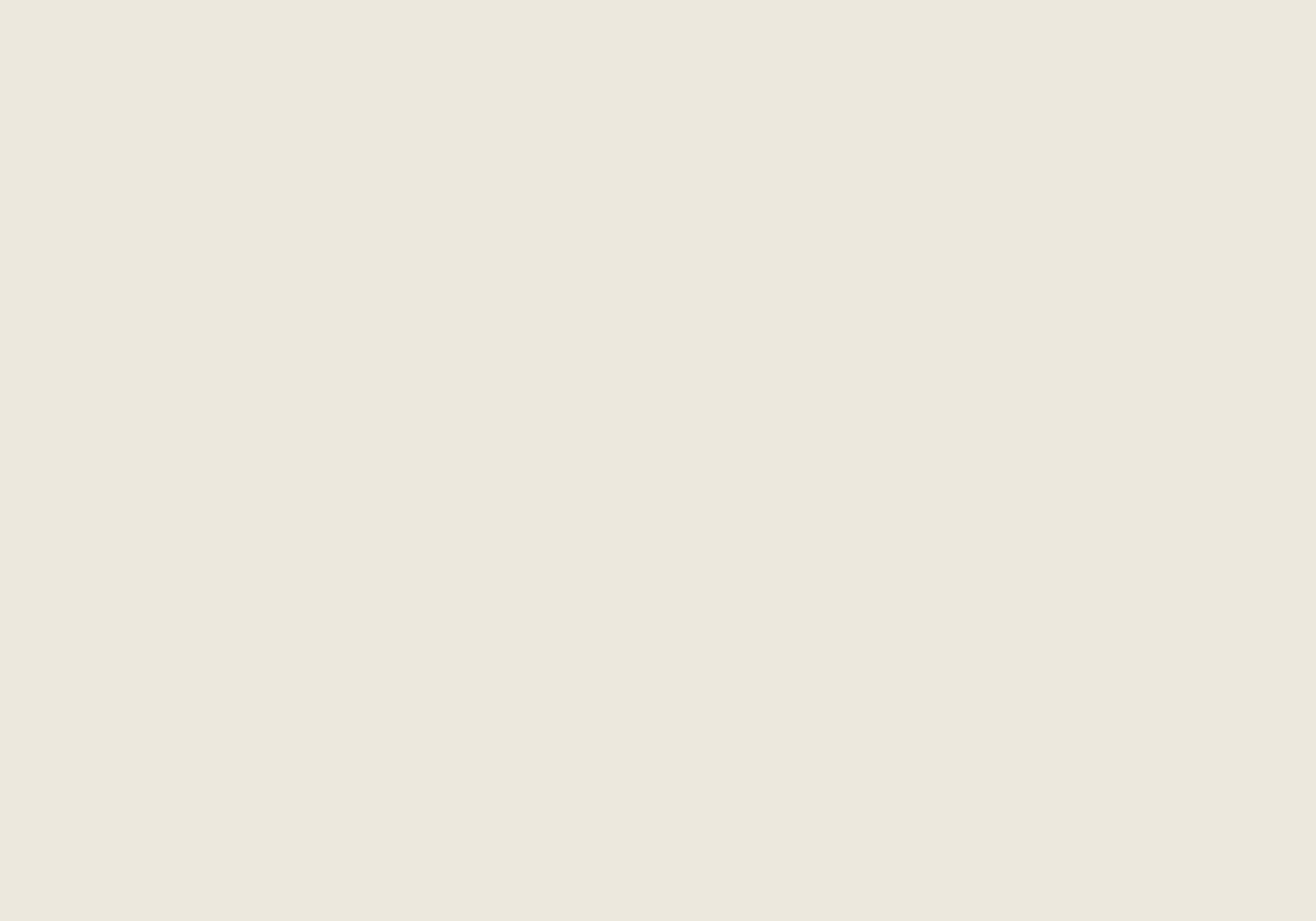
NBCUniversal
INTERNATIONAL

STUDIOS

Scripted Formats



SUITS



TWO LAWYERS. ONE DEGREE.



SUITS

A man in a dark suit and tie is sitting in an office chair, looking out a window. He is holding a baseball in his hands. The background is a bright office with a window and some office equipment.

'THE MOST PURELY
ENTERTAINING SERIES
ON TELEVISION'

VULTURE

'SUITS IS ONE OF CABLE'S
SLICKEST, MOST
ENJOYABLE DRAMAS'

NEW YORK MAGAZINE

'WELL-DRESSED, NICELY
ACTED AND SUPERBLY
WRITTEN LEGAL DRAMA'

NATIONAL ENQUIRER

'RAZOR-SHARP LEGAL DRAMEDY'

TV GUIDE

'IMPRESSIVE OUT OF THE GATE'

LA TIMES

'SWAGGERING WALK-AND-TALK DRAMA'

GQ



SUITS

Closed-ended episodic legal procedural drama with strong character elements, set in a big city legal firm.

109 x 60 including feature-length pilot; six seasons to date with more to come

USA Network, Weekly Primetime.

Universal themes of ambition, competition, loyalty and justice

Witty, fast-paced dialogue

Strong buddy casting opportunity for the two leads

Marketable guest cast cameo possibilities

Sexy, glamorous look and feel invites high-end product placement

South Korean adaptation of 20 episodes in production in 2017



THE CONCEPT

Suits takes us into the fast-paced, high-stakes world of a top big city law firm. Hotshot attorney Harvey Specter makes a risky move by hiring the brilliant but laidback Mike Ross as his new associate. The only problem is that Mike doesn't have an actual law degree.

With his encyclopedic knowledge and photographic memory, Mike proves to be a legal prodigy despite the absence of bonafide legal credentials. Bound by their secret, the two are forced to keep up their charade as they become an unbeatable duo.

THE CHARACTERS

MIKE ROSS

LATE 20s

Mike Ross is blessed with a brilliant mind and a good heart, but some bad luck and impulsive choices derailed his plan to study law. However, a chance meeting with Harvey Specter brings Mike's considerable gifts to a top law firm – giving him a second chance to get his life on track.

Mike will learn to win big cases the Harvey Specter way and become a formidable lawyer in his own right, while going to any lengths necessary to hide the fact that he doesn't have a law degree. The formerly rudderless young man will find a surrogate family with his colleagues at the Pearson Hardman firm and perhaps even true love with beautiful paralegal Rachel Zane.



HARVEY SPECTER

LATE 30s

Top lawyer Harvey Specter has built his career and life around one thing: winning. Whether it's inspiring witnesses, bullying CEOs or charming the opposing counsel into bed, Harvey will do anything to defeat his opposition. So when a chance encounter led Harvey to Mike Ross, Harvey leapt at the opportunity to add a brilliant mind like Mike's to his arsenal. Sometimes you have to take risks to come out on top.

Taking the young man under his wing, Harvey serves as a mentor to Mike, helping him negotiate the complicated legal world. And though the arrogant cutthroat super lawyer would never admit it, Mike's optimistic worldview has an effect on Harvey, changing him for the better.

JESSICA PEARSON
EARLY 40s

You don't get to the helm of one of the top corporate law firms in the city without learning how to play the game and Jessica Pearson plays it better than anyone else. Cool and calculating, Jessica always makes sure that even if one of her attorneys loses, her firm still wins. However, win or lose, she's loyal to her employees.

Instrumental in nurturing Harvey's career, Jessica isn't initially impressed by Harvey's choice of Mike Ross as a potential protégé. However, Jessica's trust and respect will be won over time as she sees Mike is an asset in beating threats to her firm. But will this admiration be enough if she discovers Mike does not have the degree he needs to be legit?

LOUIS LITT
EARLY 40s

Louis Litt's talents as a lawyer may rival Harvey's, but his ego is in a league all of its own. His ferocious knowledge of the law and his bullying nature have made him a valuable asset to Pearson Hardman, admired by Jessica and feared by the firm's junior associates. However, the political side of the job has always eluded Louis, a fact thrown into stark relief when Harvey beats Louis to become Senior Partner.

All Louis wants is Harvey's professional respect and his name on the wall but his greed and ego always get in the way and he trips as he reaches the last hurdle.



DONNA PAULSEN
LATE 30s

Don't let her title fool you. Donna may be Harvey's Executive Assistant, but she's one of the most formidable minds at Pearson Hardman. With her razor sharp wit and knowledge of all the comings and goings at the firm and across the city, Donna is admired and feared by both associates and partners alike. She's not afraid to wield that power when it suits her needs, or those of Harvey.

Having been with Harvey since his days in the Public Prosecutions office, Donna keeps the fine machinery of his life well-oiled and is privy to all his secrets – including the truth about Mike. She also acts as Harvey's conscience when he needs it most.

RACHEL ZANE
LATE 20s

For years, Rachel Zane dreamed of attending the country's top law school and working as a lawyer at the firm she loves: Pearson Hardman. But instead she is lost in a paralegal limbo, stuck watching less gifted minds surpass her while she is left to do their research. Although Rachel is smart and hardworking, she fails miserably at the exams she needs to get into law school.

When Mike joins the team, they have instant chemistry, obvious to everyone around them. Rachel is impressed by his brilliant mind and his passionate involvement in his cases but it is only when Mike starts dating someone else that she will realise she has fallen for him.





PILOT EPISODE SYNOPSIS



Harvey Specter is the best closer in the city, at the top of his game finalising mergers, acquisitions and even divorces. After a big win, Harvey is offered a promotion to Senior Partner at his firm, Pearson Hardman, ahead of frustrated colleague, Louis Litt. However, the promotion comes with a catch - his boss, Jessica Pearson, insists he hire a new associate.

Across town, Mike Ross is sitting the bar exam. Mike isn't even enrolled at Law School, but that doesn't stop him from taking the bar exam for graduates as a way to make money on the side. Mike is a prodigy; simply put, he's brilliant. He finishes the exam in plenty of time but is almost caught by a supervisor who thinks he looks familiar.

Desperate to raise a lot of money for his sick grandmother's care, Mike accepts a job from Trevor, his pot-dealing best friend, not knowing that he is being set up. When Mike realises the drug deal is a trap, he must escape. He flees the scene and serendipitously gatecrashes Harvey Specter's associate interviews. It doesn't take long for him to impress Harvey with his quick thinking, photographic memory and encyclopaedic knowledge of the law. Despite Mike's lack of a law degree, Harvey hires him.

Mike starts his new job at Pearson Hardman, meeting paralegal Rachel Zane and immediately knowing he has met his match. Louis Litt is not as welcoming, still annoyed by Harvey's promotion. Louis lets a client know that Harvey tricked him and

Jessica is forced to take away Harvey's promotion. When Mike helps Harvey win it back with blackmail, Harvey is impressed and quietly confident that hiring him was a great decision.

Harvey throws Mike his first case, a "pro bono" sexual harassment suit involving a CEO. While at home, Mike discovers Trevor has ransacked his apartment looking for the marijuana he didn't deliver. He decides to move the drugs to the office and is almost caught with them.

Mike finds an elusive witness for the sexual harassment case but she breaks down under questioning and refuses to testify. Mike quits but Harvey challenges him for never being fully committed. He had seen Mike bring the suitcase of drugs into the office and knows that Mike was keeping it as insurance in case his job at the firm wasn't safe. When Harvey realises Louis has been putting pressure on Mike he confronts him. Harvey realises his client has used the same underhanded tactics as Louis did in threatening Mike and he goes back to the witness to get her to testify to the deceit.

Mike hands the suitcase of drugs to Trevor, but as payback, he exposes his secret drug-dealing business to Trevor's girlfriend Jenny. Mike returns to the office in time to join Harvey in winning a huge settlement on their case. It's the beginning of an unbeatable partnership.

'SNAPPY DIALOGUE AND
ENGAGING CHARACTERS'

THE GUARDIAN



EXAMPLE EPISODES



INSIDE TRACK

Harvey is shocked when the new head of McKernon Motors, the first client Harvey brought to the firm, announces a plan to sell their factory land and move manufacturing to another country. As a lawyer and a motorsport junkie, Harvey thinks these plans will jeopardise the company's relationship with the firm and the quality of the engines.

Harvey asks Mike to find a flaw in the company's bylaws that will solve the problem. Meanwhile Harvey must convince and coach a former rival at the company to take over as CEO and stop the factory move. When Louis and Jessica get wind of Harvey's plan they try to stop him, not wanting to lose their client. Harvey points out if the company fails, they will lose the client anyway.

Meanwhile Louis assigns Mike the task of organising the "rookie" dinner for the new associates. Mike asks Rachel to help him choose the venue, using the opportunity to get closer to her.

IDENTITY CRISIS

Harvey must depose a man charged with embezzling money from a homeless housing charity. Louis starts the deposition and is so hard on the man that he collapses, later dying, and ruining Harvey's chances of finding the missing money.

Mike is introduced to one of the firm's biggest clients Jerome Jensen, who wants to know why his 25-year-old daughter has a fake ID. Mike discovers Jensen's daughter Lola is an accomplished hacker embezzling from her father's natural gas company... but only to help those whose health has been affected by the company's actions. She quickly realises Mike is lying about his qualifications and threatens to expose him.

Turning to Harvey's case, Mike enlists Lola to hack the accounts, knowing that she will be morally motivated. Harvey and Louis then win the case and Lola tells Mike that she has hacked the university records so that, if anyone checks, Mike has a prestigious law degree.

DOGFIGHT

Harvey believes that a man he put away for murder is innocent, because he's come across new evidence. But the powers that be at Pearson Hardman aren't too keen on Harvey representing a convicted murderer.

Mike goes to Rachel for help on the case and she puts aside her misgivings about their kiss, temporarily. Harvey's case stalls when the judge throws out the new evidence. Left with no options, Mike and Harvey must trick the real killers into turning on each other.

Meanwhile, Mike is trying to keep his relationship with Jenny a secret from Trevor, who has reappeared on the scene. Trevor intercepts a message from Rachel in which she talks about her kiss with Mike and her discomfort about Mike's relationship with Jenny. Trevor is hurt and goes to see Jessica Pearson, telling her that there's something she needs to know about Mike. Something Harvey isn't telling her.





RATINGS



USA

USA

#1 scripted series in its timeslot on cable across all six seasons

#1 drama on USA Network

Consistently surpasses USA's primetime average by over 40%

Every season builds on its lead-in by up to 90%

Averaged an impressive 4.2 million total viewers in season one and beat all broadcast networks in head-to-head period competition.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
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