

People love lists. Or they love to hate them.

Either way, we live in a culture that can't do enough listing. VH-1 and E! have based nearly their entire programming schedule on this assumption, and the American Film Institute really put itself on the map when it started releasing the 100 Most This or That.

When The Sun set out to name the 100 most memorable TV characters of all time, we had to set some parameters. Lifestyles Editor Nichole Roller asked our staff to help us choose the 100, and we naturally got more responses than we knew what to do with.

Roller gave me the dubious honor of final cut on the list. This of course means that I had to cut some people off the list, and some of my cuts are unlikely to be the ones anyone else would have made.

Memorable doesn't always mean good. That's how Arnold the Pig, Johnny Knoxville and Urkel made the list. And limiting the list to prime time also cut a whole bunch of people from the list who could have made it otherwise -- sorry Jon Stewart and Triumph, the Insult Comic Dog. Since most of these types of lists inspire controversy, we are asking for feedback right off the bat. Who should have been on? Who has no business being here? E-mail responses to [thesun@scn1.com](mailto:thesun@scn1.com), Attention: TV characters list, or mail to The Sun, Wendy Fox Weber, 1500 W. Ogden Ave., Naperville, IL 60540, Attention: TV characters list. Responses may be used in a future column.

Without further ado, here is The Sun's list of the 100 most memorable TV characters of all time, listed in alphabetical order by the name of the show, with a couple of special categories added to the list.

A

John Cage (Peter MacNicol) on "Ally McBeal"

Barney Fife (Don Knotts) on "The Andy Griffith Show"

B

Batman (Adam West) in "Batman"

Jethro Bodine (Max Baer Jr.) on "Beverly Hillbillies"

Samantha (Elizabeth Montgomery) on "Bewitched"

Spike (James Marsters) on "Buffy the Vampire Slayer"

C

Charlie (John Forsythe) on "Charlie's Angels"

Larry David (Larry David) on "Curb Your Enthusiasm"

D

J.R. Ewing (Larry Hagman) on "Dallas"

Arnold (Gary Coleman) on "Diff'rent Strokes"

Alexis (Joan Collins) on "Dynasty"

## F

Urkel (Jaleel White) on "Family Matters"

Alex P. Keaton (Michael J. Fox) on "Family Ties"

Sister Bertrille (Sally Field) on "The Flying Nun"

Will (Will Smith) on "The Fresh Prince of Bel Air"

## G

Maxwell Smart (Don Adams) on "Get Smart"

Gilligan (Bob Denver) on "Gilligan's Island"

JJ Evans (Jimmie Walker) on "Good Times"

Arnold the pig on "Green Acres"

Marshal Matt Dillon (James Arness) on "Gunsmoke"

## H

Arthur Fonzarelli, The Fonz, (Henry Winkler) on "Happy Days"

Mork from Ork (Robin Williams) on "Happy Days" and "Mork and Mindy"

Wilson (Earl Hindman) on "Home Improvement"

## I

Jeannie (Barbara Eden) on "I Dream of Jeannie"

Lucy Ricardo (Lucille Ball) on "I Love Lucy"

## J

Johnny Knoxville (head Jackass) on "Jackass"

George Jefferson (Sherman Hemsley) on "The Jeffersons"

## K

KITT (the Trans-Am) on "Knight Rider"

## L

Artie (Rip Torn) on "The Larry Sanders Show"

Nellie Olesen (Alison Arngim) on "Little House on the Prairie"

## M

Angus MacGyver (Richard Dean Anderson) on "MacGyver"

Thomas Magnum (Tom Selleck) on "Magnum P.I."

Al Bundy (Ed O'Neill) on "Married ... with Children"

Cpl. Maxwell Klinger (Jamie Farr) on "MASH"

Milton Berle (various) on "The Milton Berle Show"

Mr. Ed on "Mr. Ed"

David Addison Jr. (Bruce Willis) on "Moonlighting"

Herman Munster (Fred Gwynne) on "The Munsters"

Miss Piggy (voice of Richard Hunt) on "The Muppet Show"

Jessica Fletcher (Angela Lansbury) on "Murder, She Wrote"

Murphy's secretary (various) on "Murphy Brown"

Angela Chase (Claire Danes) on "My So-Called Life"

N

Dan Fielding (John Larroquette) on "Night Court"

Andy Sipowicz (Dennis Franz) on "NYPD Blue"

O

Seth Cohen (Adam Brody) on "The O.C."

P

Danny Partridge (Danny Bonaduce) on "The Partridge Family"

Alan Shore (James Spader) on "The Practice" and "Boston Legal"

R

James Rockford (James Garner) on "The Rockford Files"

Roseanne on "Roseanne"

S

Dr. Perry Cox (John C. McGinley) on "Scrubs"

Mr. Big (Chris Noth) on "Sex and the City"

Homer Simpson (voice of Dan Castellaneta) on "The Simpsons"

Steve Austin (Lee Majors) on "The Six Million Dollar Man"

Tony Soprano (James Gandolfini) on "The Sopranos"

Eric Cartman (voice of Trey Parker) on "South Park"

Captain Jean Luc Picard (Patrick Stewart) on "Star Trek: The Next Generation"

T

Jack Bauer (Keifer Sutherland) on "24"

Chrissy (Suzanne Somers) on "Three's Company"

Rod Serling on "The Twilight Zone"

W

John-boy (Richard Thomas) on "The Waltons"

Vinnie Barbarino (John Travolta) on "Welcome Back, Kotter"

Wonder Woman (Lynda Carter) from "Wonder Woman"

Kevin Arnold (Fred Savage) on "The Wonder Years"

DYNAMIC DUOS

Separating these classic duos is just too hard, so they count on our list as one character:

Archie and Edith Bunker (Carroll O'Connor and Jean Stapleton) on "All in the Family"

Beavis and Butt-head (voice of Mike Judge) on "Beavis and Butt-head"

Detectives Christine Cagney and Mary Beth Lacey (Sharon Gless and Tyne Daly) on "Cagney and Lacey"

Frank and Marie Barone (Peter Boyle and Doris Roberts) on "Everybody Loves Raymond"

Mr. Roarke and Tattoo (Ricardo Montalban and Herve Villechaize) on "Fantasy Island"

Ralph Kramden and Ed Norton (Jackie Gleason and Art Carney) on "The Honeymooners"

Frasier and Niles Crane (Kelsey Grammer and David Hyde Pierce) on "Frasier"

Laverne and Shirley (Penny Marshall and Cindy Williams) on "Laverne and Shirley"

Mary Richards and Lou Grant (Mary Tyler Moore and Ed Asner) on "The Mary Tyler Moore Show"

Felix Ungar and Oscar Madison (Tony Randall and Jack Klugman) on "The Odd Couple"

Captain Kirk and Mr. Spock (William Shatner and Leonard Nimoy) on "Star Trek"

Latka Gravas and the Rev. Jim Ignatowski (Andy Kaufman and Christopher Lloyd) on "Taxi"

Jack and Karen (Sean Hayes and Megan Mullally) on "Will and Grace"

Special agents Fox Mulder and Dana Scully (David Duchovny and Gillian Anderson) on "The X-files"

KEEPIN' IT REAL

These stars of reality TV shine brightest:

Simon Cowell on "American Idol"

Anna Nicole Smith on "The Anna Nicole Show"

Omorosa Manigault-Stallworth on Season 1 of "The Apprentice"

Jessica Simpson on "Newlyweds: Nick and Jessica"

Ozzy Osbourne on "The Osbournes"

The Fab 5 on "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy"

Puck on "The Real World"

Richard Hatch on "Survivor"

#### TEAM PLAYERS

In these shows, the cast is either a revolving door, or no one stands out as a breakout character:

"The Brady Bunch"

"Cheers"

"The Cosby Show"

"The Dick Van Dyke Show"

"ER"

"Friends"

"The Golden Girls"

"Hill Street Blues"

"Law and Order" and its various spinoffs

"Monty Python's Flying Circus"

"Northern Exposure"

"Seinfeld" "Twin Peaks" "The West Wing" "WKRP in Cincinnati"

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