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## **I Love Lucy (DVD) Review**

**By Britt Gillette**

Widely considered one of the greatest, if not the greatest, show in television history, I Love Lucy

signaled the ascendance of the prime time TV era. The brainchild of Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz, I Love Lucy revolutionized the television industry with its extensive use of a live audience and the employment of multiple camera angles. The result of true comic genius, the show's ability to entertain is just as relevant today as it was fifty years ago...

Real-life couple Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz play the prominent roles of Lucy and Ricky Ricardo, a married couple living in a New York apartment complex. Ricky is a Cuban-born band leader who wows night clubs with his act, while Lucy is a homemaker. Lucy and Ricky's best friends are landlords Fred and Ethel Mertz who often become intertwined in Lucy's get-rich-quick schemes, screwball ideas, and comic shenanigans. Former masters of the stage, the cast comes across as a likeable bunch, with Lucille Ball stealing the show with her goofy antics and brilliant facial contortions. If ever there were a television classic, then I Love Lucy is it...

The I Love Lucy DVD offers a number of hilarious episodes including the series premiere "The Girls Want To Go To The Nightclub" in which Ethel seeks to celebrate her 18th Anniversary with a trip to the Copacabana, while Fred wants to go to the fights. When it's agreed that the girls will go to the club while the boys go to the fight, Fred and Ricky decide to spy on the girls so they call up a friend to get some dates for the club. But Lucy and Ethel have already talked to the same friend, and they decide to pose as Fred and Ricky's dates... Other notable episodes from Season 1 include "The Quiz Show" in which Lucy seeks to make some extra money by pulling off a fake stunt, and "Drafted" in which Lucy and Ethel mistakenly believe that Ricky and Fred have been drafted into the Army...

Below is a list of episodes included on the I Love Lucy (Season 1) DVD:

Episode 1 (The Girls Want to Go to the Nightclub): Air Date: 10-15-1951 Episode 2 (Be a Pal): Air Date: 10-22-1951 Episode 3 (The Diet): Air Date: 10-29-1951 Episode 4 (Lucy Thinks Ricky is Trying to Murder Her): Air Date: 11-05-1951 Episode 5 (The Quiz Show): Air Date: 11-12-1951 Episode 6 (The Audition): Air Date: 11-19-1951 Episode 7 (The Seance): Air Date: 11-26-1951 Episode 8 (Men are Messy): Air Date: 12-03-1951 Episode 9 (Drafted): Air Date: 12-10-1951 Episode 10 (The Fur

## I Love Lucy (DVD) Review

Coat): Air Date: 12-17-1951 Episode 11 (Lucy is Jealous of Girl Singer): Air Date: 12-24-1951  
Episode 12 (The Adagio): Air Date: 12-31-1951 Episode 13 (The Benefit): Air Date: 01-07-1952  
Episode 14 (The Amateur Hour): Air Date: 01-14-1952 Episode 15 (Lucy Plays Cupid): Air Date:  
01-21-1952 Episode 16 (Lucy Fakes Illness): Air Date: 01-28-1952 Episode 17 (Lucy Writes a Play):  
Air Date: 02-04-1952 Episode 18 (Breaking the Lease): Air Date: 02-11-1952 Episode 19 (The Ballet):  
Air Date: 02-18-1952 Episode 20 (The Young Fans): Air Date: 02-25-1952 Episode 21 (New  
Neighbors): Air Date: 03-03-1952 Episode 22 (Fred and Ethel Fight): Air Date: 03-10-1952 Episode  
23 (The Moustache): Air Date: 03-17-1952 Episode 24 (The Gossip): Air Date: 03-24-1952 Episode  
25 (Pioneer Woman): Air Date: 03-31-1952 Episode 26 (The Marriage License): Air Date: 04-07-1952  
Episode 27 (The Kleptomaniac): Air Date: 04-14-1952 Episode 28 (Cuban Pals): Air Date: 04-21-1952  
Episode 29 (The Freezer): Air Date: 04-28-1952 Episode 30 (Lucy Does a TV Commercial): Air Date:  
05-05-1952 Episode 31 (The Publicity Agent): Air Date: 05-12-1952 Episode 32 (Lucy Gets Ricky on  
the Radio): Air Date: 05-19-1952

Episode 33 (Lucy's Schedule): Air Date: 05-26-1952 Episode 34 (Ricky Thinks He is Going Bald): Air  
Date: 06-02-1952 Episode 35 (Ricky Asks for a Raise): Air Date: 06-09-1952

Britt Gillette is author of The DVD Report (

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), a blog where you can find

more reviews like this one.

### **Recordable DVD formats explained**

**By Kenny Hemphill**

#### **Recordable DVD formats explained by Kenny Hemphill**

Picking your way through the ton of information available on recordable DVD formats can be a nightmare. To help you out, we've done our best to distill it into this summary.

There are five recordable versions of DVD; DVD-R for General, DVD-R for Authoring, DVD-RAM, DVD-RW, and DVD+RW. None of the formats is fully compatible with the other although there are drives which will read, and in some cases write to more than one format.

DVD-R for General and DVD-R for Authoring are essentially DVD versions of CD-R. And DVD-RW is a DVD version of CD-RW. All three formats can be read in standard DVD-ROM drives and in most DVD video players. The difference between DVD-R for General and DVD-R for Authoring is that DVD-R for General is a format intended for widespread consumer use and doesn't support 'professional' features such as piracy protection or duplication in mass duplicators. The Pioneer DVD-RW drive which is the most popular PC device for writing to DVD uses the DVD for General format. And as as

## I Love Lucy (DVD) Review

the case with CD, DVD-RW is essentially the same as DVD-R except that it can be erased and written to again and again.

DVD-RAM is slightly different as it is a sector based disc which mounts on the desktop of a PC when inserted into a drive. Files can then be copied to it in the same way as any other mounted media. Some single-sided DVD-RAM discs can be removed from their caddy and inserted in a DVD-ROM drive which will then be able to read the content of the disc.

There are DVD video recorders which use the DVD-RAM format. This enables them to pull off clever tricks like timeshifting - where you can watch the beginning of a programme you have recorded while you are still recording the end on the same disc.

DVD+RW is the newest format and not supported by the DVD Forum, the body which sets the standards for DVD. However, it is supported by some of the biggest electronics and computer manufacturers, and is therefore likely to stick around.

It is also the format used by Philips in its DVD video recorders. Despite not being authorised by the DVD Forum, DVD+RW is claimed by its supporters to be compatible with more DVD video players than DVD-R and DVD+RW writers are found in PCs from quite a few manufacturers.

Kenny Hemphill is the editor and publisher of

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