

# BJ Novak

After graduating from Harvard in 2001, Novak moved to Los Angeles and began working clubs as a comedian. His first live stand-up performance took place October 10, 2001 at the Hollywood Youth Hostel. He soon became a fixture at Los Angeles comedy clubs such as The Improv, and was named one of Variety's "Ten Comedians To Watch" in 2003.

Novak was a writer for the short-lived The WB sitcom Raising Dad. He has since performed on Comedy Central's Premium Blend and on Late Night with Conan O' Brien.

Novak's television acting career began on MTV's Punk'd. He was the lead accomplice to Ashton Kutcher on the show's second season, and was most widely known for his pranks on Hilary Duff, Usher, and Mýa. He appeared in the films Unaccompanied Minors, Reign Over Me, and Knocked Up, and he has signed on to appear in Quentin Tarantino's upcoming 2009 film Inglourious Basterds.

After hearing Novak's opening joke at a comedy club, executive producer Greg Daniels immediately decided to include Novak in his upcoming project: a U.S. version of the hit British series The Office. Novak was cast as Ryan Howard, becoming the first cast member. He is also a writer and co-executive producer for the series. Novak was the first writer to pen the line, "That's what she said," which has become a popular and recurring joke throughout the series.



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