

# Episode Outline

[TOC](#) • [Episode](#) • [Plotlines](#) • [Acts](#) • [Scenes](#) • [Beats](#)

S1 E1 [The One Where Monica Gets A Roommate](#)

Plotline [1 - Main plot](#)

Plotline [2 - Character plot](#)

Plotline [3 - Character plot](#)

Plotline [4 - Character plot](#)

Act [1 - Crisis / Confrontation](#)

Scene [1](#) Beat [1](#) [2](#)

Scene [2](#) Beat [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#)

Scene [3](#) Beat [1](#)

Scene [4](#) Beat [1](#)

Scene [5](#) Beat [1](#)

Scene [6](#) Beat [1](#)

Scene [7](#) Beat [1](#)

Scene [8](#) Beat [1](#)

Scene [9](#) Beat [1](#)

Scene [10](#) Beat [1](#)

Scene [11](#) Beat [1](#)

Scene [12](#) Beat [1](#)

Scene [13](#) Beat [1](#) [2](#)

Act [2 - Resolution / Denouement](#)Scene [1](#) Beat [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#)Scene [2](#) Beat [1](#)Scene [3](#) Beat [1](#) [2](#) [3](#)Scene [4](#) Beat [1](#) [2](#) [3](#)Scene [5](#) Beat [1](#) [2](#)Act [3 - Tag](#)Scene [1](#) Beat [1](#)

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## Episode

[TOC](#) • [Episode](#) • [Plotlines](#) • [Acts](#) • [Scenes](#) • [Beats](#)

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**Number** **S1 E1****Title** **The One Where Monica Gets A Roommate****Summary** We are introduced to the six main characters: Rachel, Monica, Ross, Chandler, Joey, and Phoebe.

The episode begins with Monica meeting up with her friends at the Central Perk coffeehouse.

Suddenly, Rachel, dressed in a wedding gown, bursts in and reveals she has left her fiancé Barry at the altar.

Seeking a fresh start, she moves in with Monica.

Meanwhile, Ross is dealing with his own heartbreak, as his wife has recently left him for a woman.

He is encouraged by his friends to move on and find someone new.

Throughout the episode, we see the dynamics of the group and their humorous interactions.

Monica goes on a date with Paul, a co-worker who ultimately reveals he has used a sob story to manipulate her into sleeping with him.

Chandler and Joey provide comic relief with their quirky personalities, while Phoebe's eccentricity adds to the charm of the group.

Rachel declares her independence, cutting up her father's credit cards and getting a job at Central Perk.

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## Plotlines

[TOC](#) • [Episode](#) • [Plotlines](#) • [Acts](#) • [Scenes](#) • [Beats](#)

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**Plotline** [1 - Main plot](#)

**Plotline** [2 - Character plot](#)

**Plotline** [3 - Character plot](#)

**Plotline** [4 - Character plot](#)

---

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[TOC](#) • [Episode](#) • [Plotlines](#) • [Acts](#) • [Scenes](#) • [Beats](#)

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**Plotline** **1 - Main plot**

A Story: Rachel's New Beginning

Rachel, who has had everything handed to her and has no real life skills, decides to start over and take control of her life.

She moves in with her friend Monica, cuts up her credit cards, and gets a job.

**Arc** Character

**Characters** Rachel Green, Monica Geller

**Settings** Central Perk, Home Base Apt

- Beat** (A1|-7) Rachel enters in a wedding dress, seeking help.
- Beat** (A1|-2) Rachel moves in with Monica.
- Beat** (A1|+1) Rachel tries to explain to Barry's machine.
- Beat** (A1|+5) Rachel self-affirms she doesn't love Barry
- Beat** (A2|+3) Rachel cuts up her credit cards.
- Beat** (A3|+5) Rachel gets a job at Central Perk

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## Plotline

[TOC](#) • [Episode](#) • [Plotlines](#) • [Acts](#) • [Scenes](#) • [Beats](#)

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### Plotline 2 - Character plot

B Story: Monica's Dating Life

Monica is still looking for the right one.

Paul might be it.

But maybe not.

**Arc** Character

**Characters** Monica Geller, Franny, Paul (The Wine Guy)

**Settings** Home Base Apt, Iridium, Central Perk

- Beat** (A1|+7) Monica and friends discuss her dating life
- Beat** (A1|+4) Paul arrives to pick up Monica for their date.
- Beat** (A1|+1) On their date, Paul says his ex cheated on him.
- Beat** (A1|-2) Paul tells Monica a sob story
- Beat** (A2|+4) Paul's morning after exit

**Beat** (A2|-1) Monica talks to Frannie about Paul

**Beat** (A2|-4) Monica sees she got played.

**Beat** (A2|-7) Monica has poetic revenge.

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## Plotline

[TOC](#) • [Episode](#) • [Plotlines](#) • [Acts](#) • [Scenes](#) • [Beats](#)

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### Plotline 3 - Character plot

C Story: Ross's Heartbreak and Hope

Ross is crushed that his wife left him and won't think of dating again.

His friends encourage him to get back out there.

He begins to consider the possibility.

**Arc** Character

**Characters** Ross Geller, Carol Willick

**Settings** Central Perk, Ross's Apt

**Beat** (A1|-8) Ross reveals his wife has left him.

**Beat** (A1|-5) Ross worries there's only one mate for everyone.

**Beat** (A1|-2) Ross wonders who he would even ask out.

**Beat** (A2|+3) Ross and Rachel have a moment.

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[TOC](#) • [Episode](#) • [Plotlines](#) • [Acts](#) • [Scenes](#) • [Beats](#)

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### Plotline 4 - Character plot

Establishing beats for other characters

Rachel, Ross, and Monica have their own plotlines.

But this is the pilot, every beat counts, and there are six friends to introduce.

Joey, Chandler, and Phoebe have character-reinforcing beats on this arc.

**Arc** Character

**Characters** Joey Tribbiani, Chandler Bing, Phoebe Buffay

**Settings** Ross's Apt, Home Base Apt, Subway Station, Central Perk

**Beat** (A1|+5) Chandler tells an embarrassing joke.

**Beat** (A1|+10) Joey's slow on the uptake.

**Beat** (A1|+2) Phoebe busking in the subway

**Beat** (A1|-1) The guys assemble furniture.

**Beat** (A2|+4) Phoebe drops some backstory.

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## Acts

[TOC](#) • [Episode](#) • [Plotlines](#) • [Acts](#) • [Scenes](#) • [Beats](#)

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### Act 1 - Crisis / Confrontation

Rachel has left her fiance at the altar, and moves in with Monica.

Ross's wife has left him and Joey and Chandler try to help him move on.

Monica goes on a date with Paul (the Wine Guy).

We learn a bit about Chandler, Joey, and Phoebe, mostly via their interactions with Ross, Rachel, and Monica.

### Act 2 - Resolution / Denouement

Monica's date turned out to be a sleepover.

Monica finds out she got played by Paul.

Rachel decides to cut up her credit cards.

Monica has poetic revenge on Paul.

### Act 3 - Tag

The friends are hanging out at Central Perk where Rachel has gotten a job as a server.

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## Scenes

[TOC](#) • [Episode](#) • [Plotlines](#) • [Acts](#) • [Scenes](#) • [Beats](#)

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### Act 1 Scene 1

INT. CENTRAL PERK DAY

Monica and friends discuss her dating life.

### Act 1 Scene 2

INT. CENTRAL PERK DAY (LATER)

Ross reveals his wife has left him.

### Act 1 Scene 3

INT. CENTRAL PERK DAY (LATER)

Rachel arrives in her wedding dress, seeking help.

### Act 1 Scene 4

INT. HOME BASE APT DAY

Rachel declares her independence by leaving home and moving in with Monica.

### Act 1 Scene 5

INT. HOME BASE APT NIGHT

Paul arrives to pick up Monica.

She's running late, so the gang chats with him as she gets dressed.

### Act 1 Scene 6

EXT. SUBWAY STATION DAY

Phoebe is busking in the subway.

### Act 1 Scene 7

INT. NEXT DOOR APT NIGHT

The guys console Ross in his nearly empty apartment while attempting to help assemble some new furniture.

### Act 1 Scene 8

INT. HOME BASE APT NIGHT

Rachel tries to explain herself to Barry's answering machine.

### Act 1 Scene 9

INT. IRIDIUM NIGHT

On their date, Paul says his ex cheated on him.

### Act 1 Scene 10

INT. HOME BASE APT NIGHT

Rachel self-affirms she doesn't love Barry

### Act 1 Scene 11

INT. ROSS'S APT NIGHT

Ross wonders if there's only one mate for everybody, but the guys try to convince him otherwise.



**Act 1 Scene 12**

INT. IRIDIUM NIGHT (LATER)

Paul lays it on thick.

**Act 1 Scene 13**

INT. ROSS'S APT NIGHT

The guys are done with the furniture, sitting around talking.

Gazing out his window, Ross wonders who he would even ask out if he could get himself together.

Match cut to Rachel looking out her own window.

**Act 2 Scene 1**

INT. HOME BASE APT DAY (DAWN)

Paul's "morning after" exit.

**Act 2 Scene 2**

INT. IRIDIUM DAY

Monica talks to Frannie about Paul

**Act 2 Scene 3**

INT. CENTRAL PERK DAY

The friends talk about Monica's date.

Rachel didn't get a job, but she got some great boots.

**Act 2 Scene 4**

INT. HOME BASE APT DAY

Rachel frets about a decision to cut up her credit cards.

The friends tell her she can't stay dependent on her dad forever.

Phoebe drops some backstory by way of a comparison to Rachel, saying she understands what it's like to be alone in the city and tells us a bit about her own arrival.

## Act 2 Scene 5

INT. HOME BASE APT NIGHT

Monica has poetic revenge on Paul.

Ross and Rachel have a moment.

## Act 3 Scene 1

INT. CENTRAL PERK DAY

Rachel has a job!

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## Beats

[TOC](#) • [Episode](#) • [Plotlines](#) • [Acts](#) • [Scenes](#) • [Beats](#)

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## Act 1 Scene 1 Beat 1

INT. CENTRAL PERK DAY

Monica describes the guy she's going to go out with.

Her friends quiz her, quickly establishing Chandler as the jokester of the bunch.

## Act 1 Scene 1 Beat 2

INT. CENTRAL PERK DAY

Chandler tells a joke about an embarrassing dream, giving us insight into his brand of humor.

**Act 1 Scene 2 Beat 1**

INT. CENTRAL PERK DAY (LATER)

Ross explains that his wife Carol has left him and he feels horrible.

**Act 1 Scene 2 Beat 2**

INT. CENTRAL PERK DAY (LATER)

Joey initially misunderstands Ross's feelings as hunger and suggests a cookie.

**Act 1 Scene 2 Beat 3**

INT. CENTRAL PERK DAY (LATER)

Phoebe tries to cleanse Ross's aura, annoying him while revealing her new-agey vibe.

**Act 1 Scene 2 Beat 4**

INT. CENTRAL PERK DAY (LATER)

The gang tries to cheer Ross up.

When it is established that Carol is a lesbian, Chandler makes a joke about how he wishes he was one.

Joey suggests a strip club is the answer.

Ross says he doesn't want to be single just wants to be married again, revealing a deep-rooted desire for normalcy.

**Act 1 Scene 3 Beat 1**

INT. CENTRAL PERK DAY (LATER)

Rachel bursts into Central Perk, looking for Monica, her only friend in the city.

Monica introduces her to the rest of the gang.

Rachel has left her fiance Barry at the altar.

Monica had not been invited to the wedding.

#### Act 1 Scene 4 Beat 1

INT. HOME BASE APT DAY

Rachel talks with her dad on the phone, declares she's moving in with Monica, and says she doesn't need his money.

#### Act 1 Scene 5 Beat 1

INT. HOME BASE APT NIGHT

Paul arrives to pick up Monica, but she's not ready so the friends chat with him while Monica gets dressed.

#### Act 1 Scene 6 Beat 1

EXT. SUBWAY STATION DAY

We see Phoebe singing for change outside the subway station.

Her quirky lyrics seem bipolar.

#### Act 1 Scene 7 Beat 1

INT. NEXT DOOR APT NIGHT

The guys help Ross assemble some furniture, since Carol has taken most of his stuff.

Ross laments about Carol's favorite beer.

#### Act 1 Scene 8 Beat 1

INT. HOME BASE APT NIGHT

Rachel tries to explain herself to Barry's answering machine, which keeps hanging up and causing her to redial to continue.

**Act 1 Scene 9 Beat 1**

INT. IRIDIUM NIGHT

Over dinner, Paul tells Monica how his girlfriend cheated on him and he broke her watch out of spite.

**Act 1 Scene 10 Beat 1**

INT. HOME BASE APT NIGHT

Rachel is watching TV alone, and Joanie is marrying Chachi.

Rachel exclaims to the empty room, "See the difference is Joanie \*loved\* Chachi!"

**Act 1 Scene 11 Beat 1**

INT. ROSS'S APT NIGHT

Ross laments that he's 26 and divorced.

It is revealed that he's been married for 4 years, while the other guys have only had brief flings.

Joey reveals his worldview by describing the options in women as a variety of ice cream flavors and telling Ross to "grab a spoon."

**Act 1 Scene 12 Beat 1**

INT. IRIDIUM NIGHT (LATER)

Paul tells her he is impotent and says he understands if she doesn't want another date.

She says she does.

**Act 1 Scene 13 Beat 1**

INT. ROSS'S APT NIGHT

The guys are sitting around talking.

Ross is responding to Joey's "grab a spoon" suggestion with the joke that the last time he grabbed a spoon was when "Billie, Don't be a Hero" was popular.

**Act 1 Scene 13 Beat 2**

INT. ROSS'S APT NIGHT

Joey says he has to go pick up his date.

Chandler feigns confusion about whether it's the screamer or the one with the cats.

This reinforces both Joey's womanizing and Chandler's wry observer personas.

**Act 2 Scene 1 Beat 1**

INT. HOME BASE APT DAY (DAWN)

Rachel is making coffee for Joey and Chandler.

She says it's the first time she's ever done it, and we see it's bad when Joey surreptitiously tosses it into a plant.

Reinforces the "not ready for the real world" starting point for her arc.

**Act 2 Scene 1 Beat 2**

INT. HOME BASE APT DAY (DAWN)

Paul and Monica enter from the bedroom to surprise of the others.

They quietly talk by the door while the others scoot the breakfast table closer in an effort to hear.

**Act 2 Scene 1 Beat 3**

INT. HOME BASE APT DAY (DAWN)

Chandler says he's got to get to work to input those numbers or nothing will happen.

His wry observations are often pointed at himself.

Rachel asks if they all have jobs and Monica says, yes, that's how we buy stuff.

We find out Joey is an actor.

**Act 2 Scene 1 Beat 4**

INT. HOME BASE APT DAY (DAWN)

Monica and Rachel talk about the night with Paul and it seems Monica is giddy.

Rachel offers her a slightly used wedding dress.

Rachel announces her intent to go out and get a job.

**Act 2 Scene 2 Beat 1**

INT. IRIDIUM DAY

Frannie quizzes Monica about her date, and reveals she has been with Paul and credits herself with curing him of a two year impotence spell.

**Act 2 Scene 3 Beat 1**

INT. CENTRAL PERK DAY

Everyone but Rachel is there.

They're discussing how Paul used the impotence line to get her in bed.

**Act 2 Scene 3 Beat 2**

INT. CENTRAL PERK DAY

Monica says "I hate men" and Phoebe says "You don't want to put that out in the universe", asserting her new-agey vibe.

**Act 2 Scene 3 Beat 3**

INT. CENTRAL PERK DAY

Rachel enters with a shopping bag.

Says she got laughed out of twelve interviews because she has no skills.

So she bought some boots at a sale, she calls her "I don't have a job, I don't need my parents, I've got great boots" boots.

They ask who pays for that had she says "Uh, my father".

**Act 2 Scene 4 Beat 1**

INT. HOME BASE APT DAY

Rachel's credit cards are spread out in the kitchen table of the home base apartment next to a big pair of scissors.

Rachel is trying to back out of this plan, but the friends are telling her she can't live off her parents forever.

**Act 2 Scene 4 Beat 2**

INT. HOME BASE APT DAY

Phoebe tells everyone to be easy on Rachel, it's hard being on your own for the first time.



She recounts how she was only 14 when she moved here, her mom had just killed herself, her stepdad was back in prison, and she stayed with a guy she met washing windshields outside the port authority, who then killed himself, but then she found aroma therapy...

**Act 2 Scene 4 Beat 3**

INT. HOME BASE APT DAY

The friends all cheer Rachel on to 'cut, cut, cut'.

Chandler makes a joke about how if you listen close, you can hear a thousand retailers scream.

**Act 2 Scene 5 Beat 1**

INT. HOME BASE APT NIGHT

The end of day sign-off music is playing on TV and everyone is gone but Monica, Rachel and Ross.

Rachel says she found a watch on the floor and Monica says leave it be, bids them goodnight, and crushes it underfoot on the way to bed.

**Act 2 Scene 5 Beat 2**

INT. HOME BASE APT NIGHT

Rachel and Ross reach for the same cookie, then split it.

Ross confesses he had a childhood crush on Rachel.

Rachel says she knew.

Ross asks if it might be ok if he asked her out on a date sometime.

She says sure and goes to bed.

Monica comes into the room as Ross is leaving, he says he "just grabbed a spoon."

**Act 3 Scene 1 Beat 1**

INT. CENTRAL PERK DAY

The friends are sitting around talking and joking, and Rachel comes by to serve coffee.

Chandler begins telling the group about a new dream and a customer calls Rachel for more coffee.

She seems annoyed, but asks another customer who is leaving to hand it to the other one on the way out and then turns back to hear about Chandler's dream.