

What is the “Betty White Award”?

The “Betty White Award” is **not an official, publicly bestowed award**. Instead, it is an **informal, behind-the-scenes honor associated with *Saturday Night Live***.

What it means on SNL

Within the SNL production culture, the phrase refers to an **unofficial accolade given to a host who demonstrates exceptional cue-card reading ability**—especially under live-television pressure.

This includes: - Accurate delivery with **no flubbed lines** - **Strong timing** and rhythm - Minimal need for rewrites or rehearsal fixes - Calm performance despite fast-paced changes

Why it’s named after Betty White

When **Betty White hosted SNL in 2010 at age 88**, cast and crew were struck by how: - Effortlessly she read cue cards - Reliably she hit comedic beats - Professionally she handled live sketches

Her performance became the **internal benchmark** for cue-card mastery. From that point on, a host who excelled in this way was jokingly said to have “won the Betty White Award.”

Key takeaways

- 🏆 **Unofficial / informal** recognition
- 🎤 Specific to ***Saturday Night Live***
- 🎯 Celebrates **exceptional cue-card reading and live performance skill**
- 🌟 Named after **Betty White's legendary hosting performance**

In short, hearing that someone “won the Betty White Award” is SNL insider shorthand for:

They absolutely nailed it.