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# Why are journalists always the villains in Hallmark Christmas movies?

In cosy Hallmark Christmas movies and rom-coms, journalists or the journalism industry in and of itself is always portrayed as villainous



**Charlotte Colombo**

Published: 2 months ago

I'm not saying that being a journalist should be a protected characteristic, but you can't deny that when it comes to movies and TV series, portrayals of writers can often be less than... realistic.

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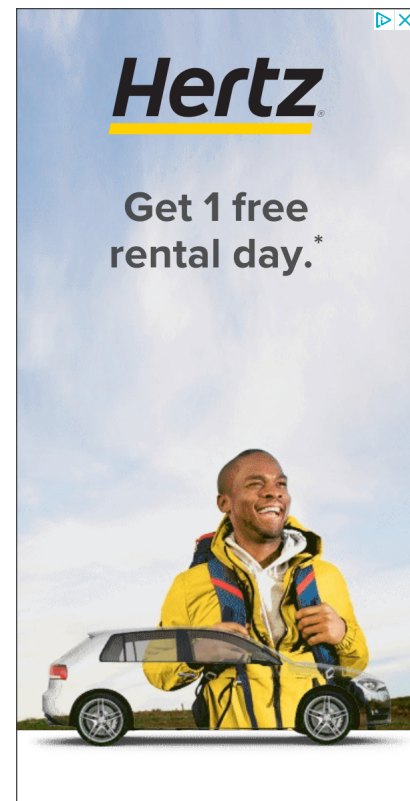
Keanu Reeves wants Denzel Washington for "crazy" John Wick crossover



Yellowstone 1923 season 2 release date speculation, cast, and more

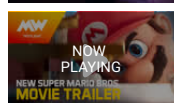


Keanu Reeves has "always wanted" to play the best X-Men character



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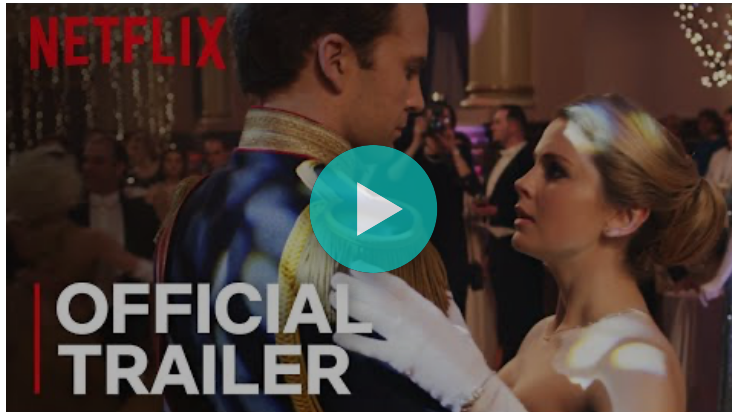
Nothing enrages me more than seeing Carrie Bradshaw being able to live in a penthouse New York apartment by writing a singular \$ 4-a-word column or watching a rom-com where you're expected to fly cross-country and break a ridiculous number of IPSO journalism ethic codes to seduce a source for a story.

Worst of all, between all the journalists portrayed as sleazy paparazos or slamming their fists on desks demanding pictures of Spider-Man, none of them knows a single thing about SEO. But when it comes to the sins of journalism on-screen, the worst of all is their portrayals in [Christmas movies](#).

The trope of the cold, big-city journalist who needs to be humbled by the warm embrace of a small-town full of Christmas spirit is such a Hallmark movie cliché, that someone did a literal research paper on it.



In the study, which was conducted by Professor Joe Saltzman from the University of Southern California, 360 of the movies aired on the Hallmark channel between 2000 and 2020 involved journalism characters. As Saltzman himself explained, the "Hallmark formula" usually consists of a "high-powered" journalist of some kind "living in the big, cold city."



However, after forging a romance with a small-town resident, discovering the meaning of Christmas, and finding the city they once thrived in too cold and unfulfilling, they oftentimes "give up the promotion they have worked so long and hard for or a coveted job in a different place" in order to settle down for a more homely, traditional lifestyle in their rural town.



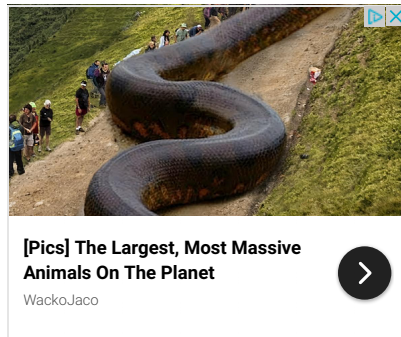
How many episodes of 1923 will there be?



Matt Damon only got this action movie role because Eminem said no



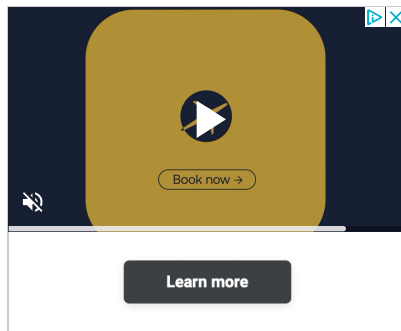
Ryan Reynolds "loved" making one of his worst movies



The thing about the “Hallmark formula” is that it isn’t just restricted to its namesake: it’s become the blueprint for most of the mid-budget, festive romance movies being pumped out by streaming services year after year.



A Christmas Prince, for example, saw ambitious magazine journalist Amber Moore be flown all the way to Aldovia (no print publication has the budget for that) and pose as the tutor for the Prince’s younger sister: committing literal identity theft and fraud with the blessing of her editor in the name of a scoop that, in all honesty, probably wouldn’t be of much interest to their readership anyway.

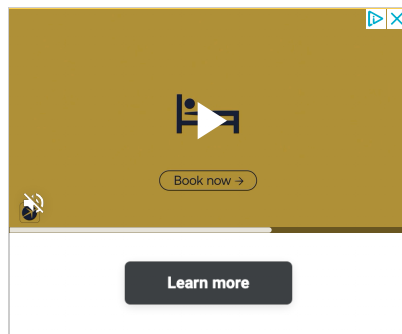


Naturally, Amber realizes that she’s too pure and lovestruck to be a slithery snakey journalist and ends up marrying the very Prince she was meant to be investigating: going from a self-made young woman determined to make something of herself to being, quite literally, a trophy wife — except the trophy, in this case, is literal crown jewels.





Sure, a lot of these films feature a movie villain like a jealous ex or forgotten fiancé back home, but the true villain represented in a lot of these films isn't even other people: it's journalism as an institution. The thing is, journalism as it is depicted in these films does look cold, unrewarding, sleazy, and immoral — but that's because it's metastasised into a caricature so far removed from its source material, it can't be considered as being in any way accurate.

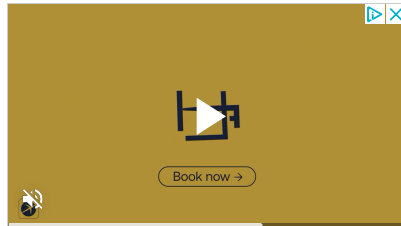


If I decided to jet off to a remote country for a month, work on literally no other story, and Slack my boss, letting him know that I was stealing the identity of a child's tutor in order to get some scoop about a prince, he wouldn't just sack me — he'd probably call the police, too.



Needless to say, journalism is very different to how it looks in Hallmark movies, but I don't think Netflix would want to commission a film about someone going feral over hitting the Top Stories box on Google. Clearly, whoever makes these movies has never actually met a real journalist in their life and what gives with the way the profession is villainised in Christmas movies?





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In his paper, 'The 21st Century Image of the Journalist in Hallmark Films,' Saltzman points out that at the heart of the 'Hallmark formula' is a Republican-leaning audience with strong conservative values around family and fulfillment. So, with that in mind, maybe we shouldn't be shocked that most female characters that conform to this formula start off as "strong career women who fought gender discrimination to become successful," but soon find that there's no true happiness in journalism.



In fact, it is "only when they returned to their small-town home did they realize that family life and doing what they truly wanted to do were more important than success and power in the urban world." Because who needs financial independence and a fulfilling career when the hot lumberjack chops wood nice, right?

They say complacency is the enemy of progress, but in the Hallmark Cinematic Universe, the only enemy is journalism. And a lack of Christmas spirit, of course.

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- Barbara Streisand wanted these actors to remake A Star is Born
- These two 1923 characters will be the new Jacob and Cara Dutton

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# New movies 2023 – full release list of all the upcoming films

Full schedule of all the upcoming, new movies in 2023, with release dates, and where to watch across theatrical, Netflix, Disney Plus, Prime and more.





Tom Percival

Updated: 1 day ago

**What new movies are coming in 2023?** It can be difficult to stay up to date with all the upcoming and new films released across streaming and theatres. Back in the day, it used to be that on a Friday, you went to the cinema

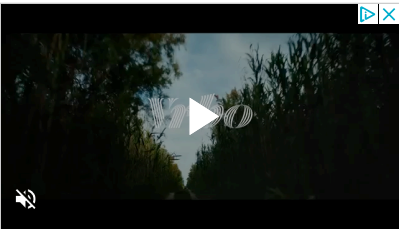
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Keanu Reeves has “always wanted” to play the best X-Men character



Learn more

knowing there'd be a new release for you to watch.

These days though, you've got numerous competing [streaming services](#), each with its own release strategies, and different studios playing 3D chess with each other to try and find the optimal release window. For film fans, who just want to watch the [best movies](#) of the year, this can cause a headache.

So, we at The Digital Fix have put together the definitive release schedule of all upcoming and **new movie** releases across the year. Our team will be updating this list constantly with all the new [comedy movies](#), [action movies](#), and everything else, so be sure to bookmark this page and check back again; also, please bear in mind that these are US release dates.

## New movies January 2023

Release date	Movie	Where to watch
January 6	M3gan	Theatrical
January 6	Women Talking	Theatrical
January 6	The Old Way	Theatrical
January 13	House Party	Theatrical
January 13	Plane	Theatrical
January 13	A Man Called Otto	Theatrical
January 20	Missing	Theatrical
January 20	The Son	Theatrical
January 20	When You Finish Saving the World	Theatrical
January 26	Teen Wolf: The Movie	Paramount Plus
January 27	Distant	Theatrical
January 27	You People	Netflix
January 27	Shotgun Wedding	Prime Video
January 27	Infinity Pool	Theatrical

## New movies February 2023

Release Date	Movie	Where to watch
February 3	Knock at the Cabin	Theatrical
February 3	80 for Brady	Theatrical
February 3	Marlowe	Theatrical
February 10	Magic Mike's Last Dance	Theatrical
February 10	Sharper	Theatrical
February 10	Your Place or Mine	Netflix
February 15	Winnie-the-Pooh: Blood and Honey	Theatrical
February 17	Ant-Man and the Wasp: Quantumania	Theatrical
February 24	We Have a Ghost	Netflix
February 24	Cocaine Bear	Theatrical
February 24	Mummies	Theatrical
February 24	Jesus Revolution	Theatrical
February 24	Bruiser	Theatrical

## New movies March 2023

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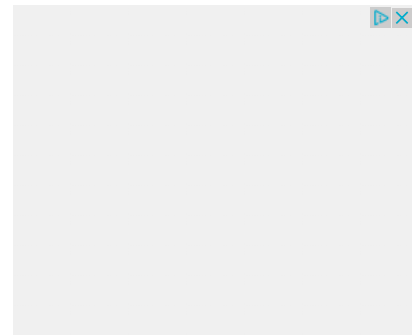
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This is the best MCU movie, no question about it



The best movies of all time



When's House of the Dragon back?



The 50 best horror movies of all time



Release date	Movie	Where to watch
March 3	Creed 3	Theatrical
March 10	Scream 6	Theatrical
March 10	Champions	Theatrical
March 10	Luther The Fallen Sun	Netflix
March 17	Shazam 2	Theatrical
March 17	65	Theatrical
March 17	Boston Strangler	Theatrical
March 17	Moving On	Theatrical
March 24	John Wick 4	Theatrical
March 24	A Good Person	Theatrical
March 31	D&D: Honour Among Thieves	Theatrical
March 31	Spinning Gold	Theatrical
March 31	Tetris	Apple TV Plus
March 31	A Thousand and One	Theatrical
March 31	Murder Mystery 2	Netflix

## New movies April 2023

Release Date	Movie	Where to Watch
April 5	Air	Amazon
April 5	The Super Mario Bros Movie	Theatrical
April 7	On A Wing and a Prayer	Theatrical
April 7	The Pope's Exorcist	Theatrical
April 14	Renfield	Theatrical
April 21	Chevalier	Theatrical
April 21	Evil Dead Rise	Theatrical
April 21	Beau is Afraid	Theatrical
April 28	Peter Pan & Wendy	Disney Pus
April 28	Heart of a Lion	Theatrical
April 28	Are You There, God? It's Me Margaret	Theatrical

## New movies May 2023

Release Date	Movie	Where to Watch
May 5	Guardians of the Galaxy Vol 3	Theatrical
May 12	Book Club 2	Theatrical
May 12	The Mother	Netflix
May 12	Love Again	Theatrical
May 19	Fast X	Theatrical
May 19	White Men Can't Jump	Theatrical
May 26	The Little Mermaid	Theatrical
May 26	About My Father	Theatrical

## New movies June 2023

Release Date	Movie	Where to Watch
June 2	Spider-Verse 2	Theatrical
June 2	The Boogeyman	Theatrical

June 9	Transformers 7	Theatrical
June 9	Strays	Theatrical
June 16	The Flash	Theatrical
June 16	Elemental	Theatrical
June 16	Asteroid City	Theatrical
June 16	Extraction 2	Netflix
June 16	The Blackening	Theatrical
June 23	No Hard Feelings	Theatrical
June 30	Indiana Jones 5	Theatrical
June 30	Harold and the Purple Canyon	Theatrical

## New movies July 2023

Release Date	Movie	Where to Watch
July 7	Insidious 5	Theatrical
July 14	Mission Impossible 7	Theatrical
July 21	Oppenheimer	Theatrical
July 21	They Cloned Tyrone	Netflix
July 21	Barbie	Theatrical
July 28	Haunted Mansion	Theatrical

## New movies August 2023

Release Date	Movie	Where to Watch
August 4	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles Mutant Mayhem	Theatrical
August 4	Meg 2	Theatrical
August 11	Gran Turismo	Theatrical
August 11	Heart of Stone	Netflix
August 11	The Last Voyage of the Demeter	Theatrical
August 11	Challengers	Theatrical
August 18	Blue Beetle	Theatrical
August 25	They Listen	Theatrical
August 25	Lift	Netflix

## New movies September 2023

Release Date	Movie	Where to Watch
September 1	The Equalizer 3	Theatrical
September 8	The Nun 2	Theatrical
September 15	A Haunting In Venice	Theatrical
September 22	The Expendables 4	Theatrical
September 22	Next Goal Wins	Theatrical

## New movies October 2023

Release Date	Movie	Where to Watch
October 6	Kraven the Hunter	Theatrical
October 6	True Love	Theatrical

October 13	The Exorcist reboot	Theatrical
October 13	Damsel	Netflix
October 20	The Underdogs	Theatrical
October 27	Saw X	Theatrical
October 27	Pain Hustlers	Netflix

New movies November 2023

Release Date	Movie	Where to Watch
November 3	Dune 2	Theatrical
November 10	The Killer	Netflix
November 10	The Marvels	Theatrical
November 10	Chicken Run 2	Netflix
November 17	The Hunger Games: Songbird and Snakes	Theatrical
November 17	A Family Affair	Netflix
November 17	Trolls 3	Theatrical
November 22	Wish	Theatrical
November 22	Leo	Netflix

New movies December 2023

Release Date	Movie	Where to Watch
December 8	Leave The World Behind	Netflix
December 15	Wonka	Theatrical
December 20	The Color Purple	Theatrical
December 20	Ghostbusters 4	Theatrical
December 22	Migration	Theatrical
December 22	Revele Moon	Netflix
December 25	Aquaman 2	Theatrical

New 2023 movies without a release date

Release Date	Movies	Where to Watch
2023	Coyote Vs. Acme	Theatrical
2023	Legally Blonde 3	Theatrical
2023	The Nightingale	Theatrical
2023	Salem's Lot	Theatrical
2023	White Bird: A Wonder Story	Theatrical

Biggest 2023 movies





### Ant-Man and the Wasp: Quantumania

[Marvel's Phase 5](#) has begun, and we couldn't be more excited to meet [Kang the Conqueror](#), the new big bad of the MCU. If you want to know more about this [superhero movie](#) and Scott Lang's next adventure, check out our [Ant-Man 3 review](#).



### Dungeons and Dragons: Honour Among Thieves

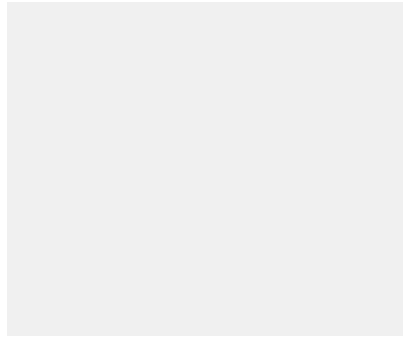
[Chris Pine](#) and [Hugh Grant](#) in a comedy movie set in the Dungeons and Dragons universe? You had us at "Chris Pine". If you need to brush up on the forgotten realms, we've written a comprehensive guide to the [Dungeons and Dragons movie release date](#).



### Scream 6

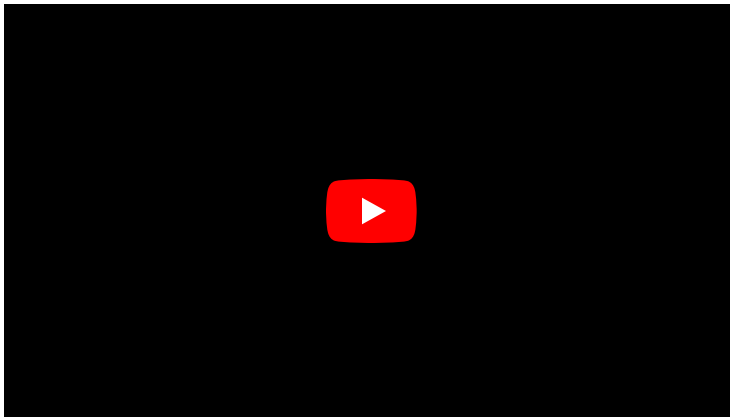
You didn't think Ghostface had been defeated, did you? Of course, he hasn't. Have you never seen a [horror movie](#)? The [slasher](#) always comes back for the

sequel. [Scream 6](#) will be a little different, though. We're leaving the relative safety of Woodsboro and heading out to New York City! Who does Ghostface think he is, [Jason Voorhees](#)?



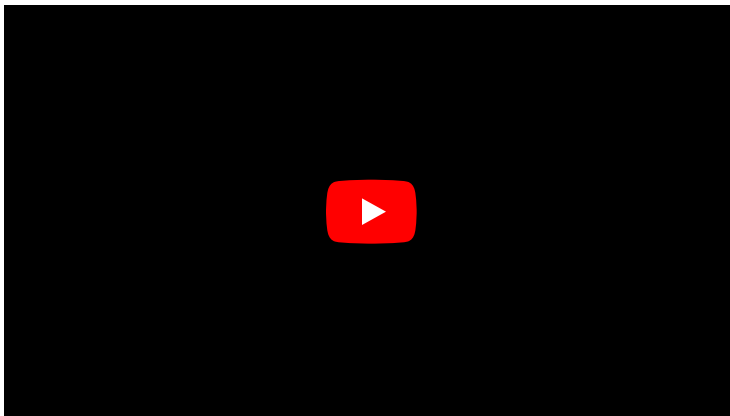
### Fast X

Do you feel the need? The need for speed? Well, so do we, and that's why we're already revving our engines for the latest [Fast and Furious](#) movie. Grab a cold Corona and read our article on the [Fast 10](#) release date.



### Barbie

What stars [Margot Robbie](#) and has the potential to be our most anticipated movie of the year? If you chose Barbie, well done, you win a prize. The prize is a guide on everything we know about the [Barbie movie](#) release date.



### Oppenheimer

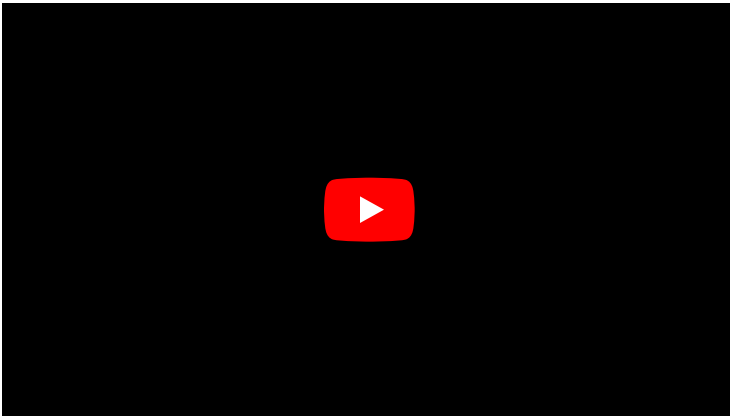
It's a matter of fact that [Christopher Nolan](#) doesn't make bad movies. He could literally freeze himself defrosting his freezer, and we'd pay to see it.

Thankfully, he's not defrosted his freezer. He's made a [war movie](#) about the person who invented the atomic bomb! Learn more about the [Oppenheimer release date](#) here.



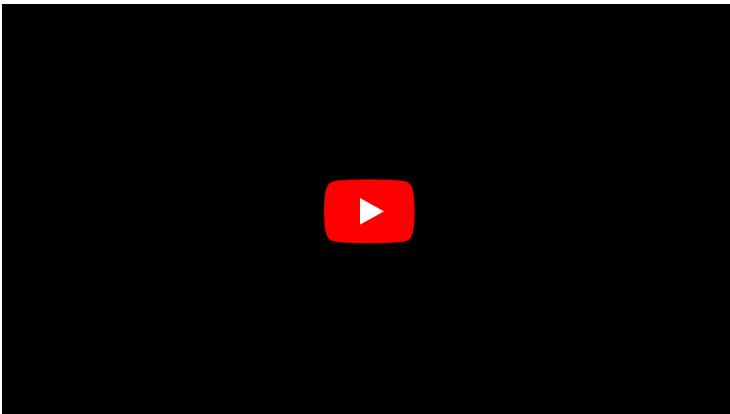
## Dune 2

Denis Villeneuve blew us all away with his first science fiction movie, [Dune](#), so the sequel has to be better, right? That's how this works. If you want to know more, then read our article on the [Dune 2 release date](#).



## Mission Impossible 7

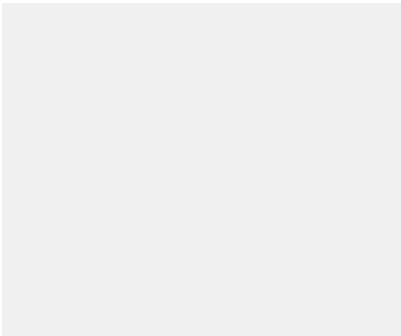
Tom Cruise will literally keep throwing himself out of planes until you watch his action movies. In fact, I think I can hear his plane starting up now... quick go watch the [Mission Impossible 7 trailer](#) now before he gets airborne.



## Spider-Verse 2

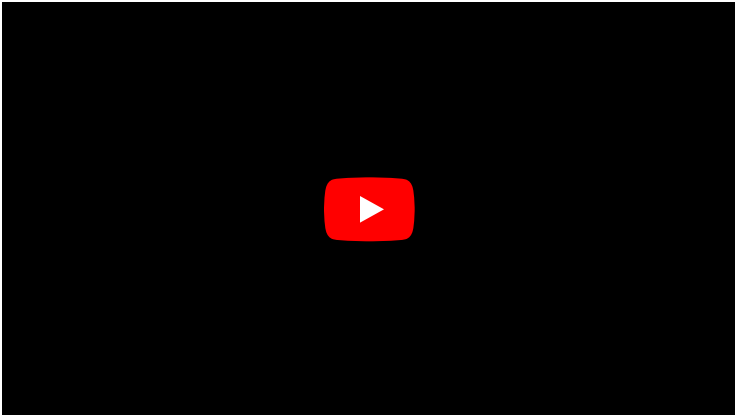


Our love of all the [Spider-Man movies](#) is very well documented, but Spider-Verse is obviously the best. If you've skipped it because you don't like [animated movies](#), do yourself a favour and watch it because later this year, it's all people are going to be talking about. Learn more about the [Spider-Verse 2 release date](#) here.



### New movies coming to Netflix in 2023

There are plenty of top-quality films coming to Netflix this year, including the [action movie Extraction 2](#) and [Zack Snyder's science fiction movie Rebel Moon](#). Check out the trailer for all the [streaming service's big new movies](#) below.



### New movies coming in 2024

Release Date	Movies	Where to Watch
January 12	El Muerto	Theatrical
January 18	The Tiger's Apprentice	Theatrical
February 16	<a href="#">Madame Web</a>	Theatrical
March 1	The Fall Guy	Theatrical
March 8	A Quiet Place: Day One	Theatrical
March 8	<a href="#">Kung-Fu Panda 4</a>	Theatrical
March 15	Godzilla vs. Kong 2	Theatrical
March 22	Snow White	Theatrical
March 29	Spider-Verse 3	Theatrical
March 19	Mickey 17	Theatrical
April 5	The War of the Rohirrim	Theatrical
May 3	Captain America: New World Order	Theatrical
May 24	Furiosa	Theatrical
May 24	Garfield	Theatrical

May 24	If	Theatrical
May 24	Planet of the Apes 4	Theatrical
June 17	Inside Out 2	Theatrical
June 28	Mission: Impossible 8	Theatrical
July 4	Despicable Me 4	Theatrical
July 5	Mufasa	Theatrical
July 19	Transformers: A New Generation	Theatrical
July 19	Twisters	Theatrical
July 26	Thunderbolts	Theatrical
September 6	Blade	Theatrical
October 4	Joker 2	Theatrical
November 8	Deadpool 3	Theatrical
December 20	Avatar 3	Theatrical
December 20	Sonic The Hedgehog 3	Theatrical
December 25	Wicked Part 1	Theatrical



New movies coming in 2025

Release date	Movies	Where to watch
February 13	Fantastic Four	Theatrical
May 1	Avengers: The Kang Dynasty	Theatrical
July 11	Superman: Legacy	Theatrical
October 3	The Batman Part II	Theatrical
November 6	Avengers: Secret Wars	Theatrical
December 25	Wicked Part 2	Theatrical

If you want to know what we made of last year's cinematic offerings, check out our list of the [best 2022 movies](#). We've also got guides on some of the best TV series, including [House of the Dragon season 2](#), [Severance season 2](#), and [Succession season 4](#).

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- [Yellowstone 1923 season 2 release date speculation, cast, and more](#)
- [Keanu Reeves has "always wanted" to play the best X-Men character](#)
- [Barbara Streisand wanted these actors to remake A Star is Born](#)

■ These two 1923 characters will be the new Jacob and Cara Dutton

**Tom Percival** *Editor at The Digital Fix and fan of dressing like a time-traveller, Tom loves three things; the MCU, Spider-Man, Ghostbusters... oh, and writing in the third person.*

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