

Despicable Me 4

Despicable Me 4 is an upcoming American animated comedy film produced by Illumination and distributed by Universal Pictures. It will serve as the sequel to *Despicable Me 3* (2017), the fourth main installment, and the sixth installment overall in the *Despicable Me* franchise. The film is directed by Chris Renaud, co-directed by Patrick Delage, produced by Chris Meledandri and Brett Hoffman, and written by Mike White and Ken Daurio. It stars the voices of Steve Carell, Kristen Wiig, Will Ferrell, Miranda Cosgrove, Joey King, Stephen Colbert, Pierre Coffin, Sofía Vergara, Renaud, Madison Polan, Dana Gaier, Chloe Fineman, and Steve Coogan.

Development on a fourth *Despicable Me* film began in September 2017. It was officially confirmed in February 2022, with Renaud, Delage, and White attached as director, co-director, and writer, respectively. Production was underway by June 2022. Most of the main voice cast was announced in January 2024, with Hoffman and Daurio revealed as co-producer and co-writer, respectively.

Despicable Me 4 is scheduled to be theatrically released in the United States on July 3, 2024.

Premise

Gru (Carell), the world's favourite supervillain-turned-Anti-Villain League-agent, returns for an exciting, bold new era of Minions mayhem, alongside his wife and fellow Anti-Villain League-agent Lucy (Wiig), their three adopted girls —Margo (Cosgrove), Edith (Gaier) and Agnes (Polan)— and the newest member to the Gru family, Gru Jr., who is intent on tormenting his dad. The family is forced to go on the run when they become targeted by escaped criminal Maxime Le Mal (Ferrell) and his femme fatale girlfriend Valentina (Vergara).

—Universal Pictures and Illumination^[2]

Voice cast

- Steve Carell as Gru, a former supervillain turned Anti-Villain League agent; Margo, Edith, and Agnes' adoptive father, Gru Jr.'s biological father and Lucy's husband

Despicable Me 4

Teaser poster

Directed by	Chris Renaud
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Written by Mike White
Ken Daurio

Produced by Chris Meledandri
Brett Hoffman

Starring

Steve Carell

Kristen Wiig

Will Ferrell

Miranda

Cosgrove

Joey King

Stephen Colbert

Pierre Coffin

Sofía Vergara

Chris Renaud

Madison Polan

Dana Gaier

Chloe Fineman

Steve Coogan

- Kristen Wiig as Lucy Wilde, an Anti-Villain League agent, Gru's wife and the girls' adopted mother and Gru Jr.'s biological mother
- Will Ferrell as Maxime Le Mal, a supervillain who seeks revenge on Gru and his family
- Joey King as Poppy Prescott,^{[3][4]} an aspiring supervillain that has admired Gru for a long time
- Sofía Vergara as Valentina, Maxime's femme fatale girlfriend
- Stephen Colbert as Perry Prescott, Poppy's father, Patsy's husband, and Gru's new neighbor^[4]
- Chloe Fineman as Patsy Prescott, Poppy's mother, Perry's wife, and Gru's new neighbor^[4]
- Miranda Cosgrove as Margo, Gru and Lucy's oldest adopted daughter
- Steve Coogan as Silas Ramsbottom, the previously-retired director of the Anti-Villain League
- Pierre Coffin as the Minions, the yellow henchmen of Gru who later get jobs at the Anti-Villain League as agents
- Dana Gaier as Edith, Gru and Lucy's middle adopted daughter
- Madison Polan as Agnes, Gru, and Lucy's youngest adopted daughter. Polan replaces Nev Scharrel from the third film

Edited by	<u>Tiffany Hillkurtz</u>
Music by	<u>Heitor Pereira</u> (score) <u>Pharrell Williams</u> (songs and themes)
Production company	<u>Illumination</u>
Distributed by	<u>Universal Pictures</u>
Release date	July 3, 2024
Running time	95 minutes ^[1]
Country	United States
Language	English

Additionally, the film's director Chris Renaud has been cast in an undisclosed role.

Production

Development of *Despicable Me 4* began in September 2017, with longtime *Despicable Me* and Illumination writers Cinco Paul and Ken Daurio writing early drafts of the script.^[5] The film was officially confirmed in February 2022, with veteran *Despicable Me* director Chris Renaud, Patrick Delage, and Mike White attached as director, co-director, and writer, respectively, and a July 3, 2024 release date announced.^{[6][7]} Production was underway by June 2022, with Steve Carell starting his voice recording after a "couple of sessions".^[8]

In January 2024, it was announced that Carell, Kristen Wiig, Miranda Cosgrove, Dana Gaier, Pierre Coffin, and Steve Coogan would return to reprise their respective roles as Gru, Lucy Wilde, Margo, Edith, the Minions, and Silas Ramsbottom, while Will Ferrell, Joey King, Sofía Vergara, Stephen Colbert, Chloe Fineman, and Madison Polan (replacing Nev Scharrel) would join the voice cast, respectively voicing Maxime Le Mal, Poppy Prescott, Valentina, Perry Prescott, Patsy Prescott, and Agnes.^{[9][3]} It was also announced in January that *The Super Mario Bros. Movie* (2023) executive producer Brett Hoffman and Daurio had been added as co-producer and co-writer, respectively.^[2]

Music

In March 2024, Heitor Pereira was announced to be composing the film's score, returning from the first three films.^[10] Pharrell Williams was also confirmed to be returning to co-compose the score with Pereira, as well as to write new songs.^[11]

Marketing

The first trailer for the film was released on January 28, 2024, during the 2023–24 NFL playoffs championship games.^[12] The trailer features the songs "Sweet Child O' Mine" by Guns N' Roses and "Maneater" by Hall & Oates, as well as in television showings, "Through the Fire and Flames" by DragonForce. The trailer has 21 million views as of May 2024.^[13] An additional trailer was revealed on February 11 during the Super Bowl LVIII, being narrated by Jon Hamm, who previously voiced Herb Overkill in the Minions spin-off, and featured cameos from Will Ferrell and Steve Carell. Ryan Gajewski of The Hollywood Reporter said the trailer had appeared to "tout the benefits of modern technology but feature strange images supposedly generated by AI", enjoying the Renaissance-era inspired pose of Ferrell and Carell in the trailer.^[14] The second trailer was released on May 7, 2024.^[15]

Release

Despicable Me 4 is scheduled to be released in the United States on July 3, 2024.^[6]

As part of Universal's deal with Netflix, the film will stream on Peacock for the first four months of the pay-TV window, before moving to Netflix for the next ten, and returning to Peacock for the remaining four.^{[16][17]}

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External links

- Official website (<https://www.despicable.me/>)
- *Despicable Me 4* (<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt7510222/>) at IMDb

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