

The Garfield Movie

The Garfield Movie is a 2024 American animated adventure comedy film based on the comic strip Garfield created by Jim Davis. It is the third theatrically released Garfield film and the first to be fully computer-animated. Directed by Mark Dindal from a screenplay by Paul A. Kaplan, Mark Torgove, and David Reynolds, the film stars Chris Pratt as the voice of the titular character, alongside the voices of Samuel L. Jackson, Hannah Waddingham, Ving Rhames, Nicholas Hoult, Cecily Strong, Harvey Guillén, Brett Goldstein, Bowen Yang, and Snoop Dogg. In the film, Garfield is reunited with his long-lost father, a street cat named Vic, being forced into joining him on a high-stakes adventure.

Development on the first animated *Garfield* film for theatrical release started at <u>Alcon Entertainment</u> in May 2016. Dindal was announced as the film's director in November 2018, and preproduction began the following month. By 2021, <u>Sony Pictures</u> had already purchased the film rights for global distribution and Pratt was cast as Garfield, with the rest of the cast joining the following year. The film was animated by <u>DNEG Animation</u>, while <u>John Debney</u>, a frequent collaborator of Dindal, composed the score.

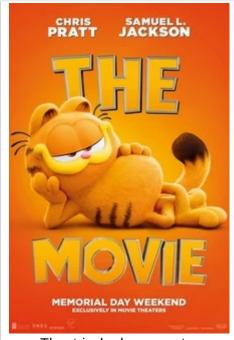
The Garfield Movie is set to be released in the United States by Sony Pictures Releasing on May 24, 2024. The film received mixed reviews from critics and has grossed \$49 million internationally.

Plot

Voice cast

- Chris Pratt as Garfield, a sarcastic and lazy orange tabby cat^[5]
- Samuel L. Jackson as Vic, Garfield's biological and estranged father [5]
- Hannah Waddingham as Jinx, a villainous Persian cat^[5]
- Ving Rhames as Otto, a bull^[5]
- Nicholas Hoult as Jon Arbuckle, Garfield and Odie's owner^[5]

The Garfield Movie



Theatrical release poster

Directed by	Mark Dindal
Screenplay by	Paul A. Kaplan
	Mark Torgove
	David Reynolds
Based on	Garfield
	by <u>Jim Davis</u>
Produced by	John Cohen
	Broderick
	Johnson
	Andrew A. Kosove
	Steven P. Wegner
	Craig Sost
	Namit Malhotra
Starring	Chris Pratt

Samuel L. Jackson Hannah Waddingham Ving Rhames

Nicholas Hoult

- Cecily Strong as Marge, a dedicated <u>Animal Control</u> officer^[5]
- Harvey Guillén as Odie, a yellow beagle and Garfield's best friend^[5]
- <u>Brett Goldstein</u> as Roland, a large <u>Shar Pei</u> who is one of Jinx's henchmen^[5]
- Bowen Yang as Nolan, a small whippet who is one of Jinx's henchmen^[5]
- <u>Janelle James</u> as Olivia, a green cat^[6]
- Snoop Dogg as Snoop Catt, a blue Maine Coon with an eyepatch^[6]

Production

Development

In May 2016, seven years after 20th Century Fox's license with Paws, Inc. expired, it was announced that Alcon Entertainment would develop a new CG animated *Garfield* film, with John Cohen and Steven P. Wegner producing, from a script by Mark Torgove and Paul A. Kaplan. Mark Dindal was announced as director in November 2018, with pre-production beginning the following month. In November 2021, David Reynolds was announced to write the film, reuniting with Dindal after having previously worked together on Disney's *The Emperor's New Groove* (2000). Sony Pictures would distribute the film under its Columbia Pictures label except for China, and DNEG Animation would provide the animation. By September 2023, it was reported that the film would be entitled *The Garfield Movie*. Movie.

	Cecily Strong
	Harvey Guillén
	Brett Goldstein
	Bowen Yang
	Snoop Dogg
Edited by	Mark Keefer
Music by	John Debney
Production companies	Columbia Pictures ^[1]
	Alcon
	Entertainment
	DNEG
	Animation ^[a]
	One Cool Group
	Wayfarer Studios
	vvaylarer Studios
	Stage 6 Films ^[2]
	Stage 6 Films ^[2]
Distributed by	Stage 6 Films ^[2] Andrews McMeel
Distributed by	Stage 6 Films ^[2] Andrews McMeel Entertainment ^[2] Sony Pictures
_	Stage 6 Films ^[2] Andrews McMeel Entertainment ^[2] Sony Pictures Releasing
_	Stage 6 Films ^[2] Andrews McMeel Entertainment ^[2] Sony Pictures Releasing May 24, 2024
Release date	Stage 6 Films ^[2] Andrews McMeel Entertainment ^[2] Sony Pictures Releasing May 24, 2024 (United States)
Release date Running time	Stage 6 Films ^[2] Andrews McMeel Entertainment ^[2] Sony Pictures Releasing May 24, 2024 (United States) 101 minutes ^[3]

Casting

In November 2021, <u>Chris Pratt</u> was announced to star as Garfield. In May 2022, it was reported that <u>Samuel L. Jackson</u> joined the film as Garfield's father, Vic. [14] In August 2022, <u>Ving Rhames</u>, <u>Nicholas Hoult</u>, <u>Hannah Waddingham</u> and <u>Cecily Strong</u> were added to the cast. In November 2022, <u>Brett Goldstein</u> and <u>Bowen Yang</u> were added to the cast. <u>Harvey Guillén</u> was confirmed to voice Odie in November 2023, and Hoult was later confirmed to voice Jon Arbuckle in December 2023. With the release of the second trailer in March 2024, <u>Snoop Dogg</u> was revealed to star in the film, and <u>Janelle James</u> was also announced to star the same month.

Garfield creator Jim Davis has approved of Pratt's casting as Garfield, believing his performance embraced "all sides of the character" and not just Garfield's deadpan humor. Pratt was also director Mark Dindal's first choice to voice Garfield, believing "he had been 'imagining [Pratt's] voice coming out of Garfield' for years". Dindal believed that his natural voice captured Garfield's laziness and sarcasm, and to test the compatibility, the animators have paired his voice with snippets of Garfield's dialogue as a test.

Music

In November 2023, it was reported that <u>John Debney</u> would compose the film's score, marking his third collaboration with Dindal following *The Emperor's New Groove* and <u>Chicken Little</u> (2005). <u>Snoop Dogg</u> collaborated with <u>Keith Urban</u> on an original song for the film titled "Let It Roll", which was released as a single on April 12, 2024. Another single titled "Then There Was You" was released by <u>Calum Scott</u> in May 2024. On May 15, 2024, yet another single titled "Good Life", this time from <u>Jon Batiste</u>, was released.

Release

The Garfield Movie is scheduled for theatrical release in the United States on May 24, 2024. [26] Internationally, the film was released earlier, on May 1, 2024. [27] It was previously scheduled for release domestically on February 16, 2024. [28]

In April 2021, Sony signed deals with <u>Netflix</u> and <u>Disney</u> for the rights to their 2022 to 2026 film slate, following the films' theatrical and home media windows. Netflix signed for exclusive "pay 1 window" streaming rights, which is typically an 18-month window and included *The Garfield Movie*. Disney signed for "pay 2 window" rights for the films, which would be streamed on <u>Disney+</u> and <u>Hulu</u> as well as broadcast on Disney's linear television networks. [29]

Video game

A video game spin-off based on the film is reportedly set to be released in 2024. [30][31]

Reception

Box office

In the United States and Canada, *The Garfield Movie* is scheduled to be released alongside *Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga* and *Sight*, and is projected to gross around \$30 million from 4,000 theaters in its four-day opening weekend. [32]

The film opened in 18 countries on May 3, and grossed \$22 million in its first weekend. Its largest markets were Mexico (\$8.8 million), Spain (\$3.2 million), Brazil (\$2.2 million), Italy (\$1.6 million), and Peru (\$1.3 million).

Critical response

On the <u>review aggregator</u> website <u>Rotten Tomatoes</u>, 42% of 60 critics' reviews are positive, with an average rating of 4.8/10. The website's consensus reads: "*The Garfield Movie* rolls along at a zany enough clip to be diverting for kids, but this animated adventure doesn't much resemble Jim Davis' iconically grumpy creation." Metacritic, which uses a <u>weighted average</u>, assigned the film a score of 32 out of 100, based on 16 critics, indicating "generally unfavorable" reviews. [36]

Notes

a. Credited as Prime Focus in the film and its trailers.

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External links

- Official website (https://www.thegarfield-movie.com)
- The Garfield Movie (https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5779228/) at IMDb

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