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# Beverly Hills Cop: Axel F

***Beverly Hills Cop: Axel F*** is an upcoming American action comedy film directed by Mark Molloy, written by Will Beall, Tom Gormican and Kevin Etten, from a story by Beall. Serving as the fourth installment in the *Beverly Hills Cop* film series, Eddie Murphy (who also produces) reprises his role as Axel Foley, with Judge Reinhold, John Ashton, Paul Reiser, and Bronson Pinchot reprising their roles from previous films in the franchise, while Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Taylor Paige, and Kevin Bacon star in new roles.

The film entered development in the mid-1990s, under Murphy's production company. Various directors and screenwriters were attached over the years, including Brett Ratner and Adil El Arbi and Bilall Fallah. Molloy was hired to direct in April 2022, with production beginning in California that August. Production has wrapped up, with the film scheduled to be released on the streaming service Netflix on July 3, 2024.<sup>[1][2][3]</sup>

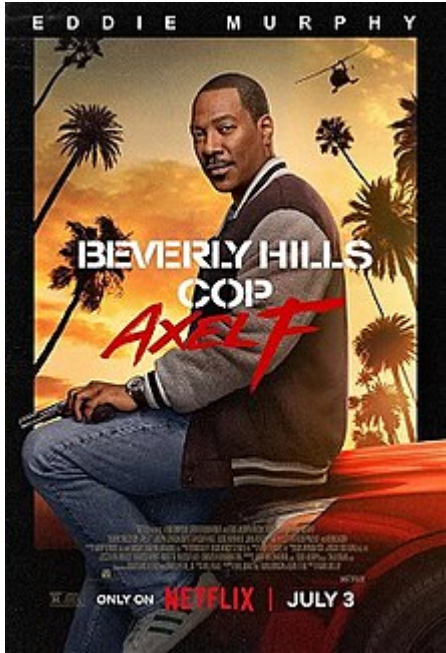
## Premise

Axel Foley has returned to Beverly Hills after his daughter Jane's life is threatened. She and Axel team up with her ex-boyfriend, and his old pals John Taggart and Billy Rosewood to turn up the heat and uncover a conspiracy.

## Cast

- Eddie Murphy as Axel Foley, a street-smart police lieutenant from Detroit, Michigan, who frequently traveled to Beverly Hills to investigate crimes that previously had mutual colleagues or friends of his wounded or killed.
- Joseph Gordon-Levitt as Detective Bobby Abbott, Jane's ex-boyfriend and a police detective in the Beverly Hills Police Department who becomes Axel's new partner.<sup>[4]</sup>
- Taylor Paige as Jane Saunders, Axel Foley's estranged daughter who works in Beverly Hills as a criminal defense attorney.<sup>[5][6][7]</sup>
- Judge Reinhold as Lieutenant William "Billy" Rosewood, John Taggart's former partner in the Beverly Hills Police Department.<sup>[8]</sup>
- John Ashton as Sergeant John Taggart, Billy Rosewood's former partner in the Beverly Hills Police

### Beverly Hills Cop: Axel F



Promotional release poster

<b>Directed by</b>	<u>Mark Molloy</u>
<b>Screenplay by</b>	<u>Will Beall</u> <u>Tom Gormican</u> <u>Kevin Etten</u>
<b>Story by</b>	<u>Will Beall</u>
<b>Based on</b>	Characters by <u>Danilo Bach</u> & <u>Daniel Petrie Jr.</u>
<b>Produced by</b>	<u>Jerry Bruckheimer</u> <u>Eddie Murphy</u> <u>Chad Oman</u> <u>Melissa Reid</u>
<b>Starring</b>	<u>Eddie Murphy</u> <u>Joseph Gordon-Levitt</u> <u>Taylor Paige</u> <u>Judge Reinhold</u> <u>John Ashton</u>

Department who retired from the force as of *Beverly Hills Cop III*. Ashton returns to the role after 35 years from *Beverly Hills Cop II*.<sup>[9]</sup>

- Paul Reiser as Detective Jeffrey Friedman, Axel's partner in the Detroit Police Department. Reiser returns to the role after 35 years from *Beverly Hills Cop II*.<sup>[10]</sup>
- Bronson Pinchot as Serge, a former art gallery salesman turned weapons dealer that worked for Victor Maitland. Pinchot returns to the role after 28 years from *Beverly Hills Cop III*.<sup>[11]</sup>
- Kevin Bacon as Captain Grant, a police captain in the Beverly Hills Police Department.<sup>[4]</sup>
- Mark Pellegrino<sup>[12]</sup>
- Luis Guzmán

## Production

### Development

A fourth entry in the series was initially announced for release in the mid-1990s, under the production of Eddie Murphy's production company Eddie Murphy Productions, before production fizzled out.<sup>[13]</sup> The film was re-announced in 2006, when producer Jerry Bruckheimer announced his intention to resurrect the film series, though he eventually gave up his option to produce the film, passing production duties to Lorenzo di Bonaventura.<sup>[14][15]</sup>

In September 2006 a script, which was an amalgamation of several earlier drafts, was presented to Murphy, who was reported to be "very happy" with the outline, described as an attempt to recapture the "feel of the original".<sup>[16][17]</sup> Murphy admitted one of his motivations for making a fourth *Beverly Hills Cop* film was to make up for the fact that the third film was "horrible" and "he didn't want to leave (the series) like that".<sup>[18][19]</sup>

In May 2008, *Rush Hour* director Brett Ratner was officially named director, promising the film would return under the series' standard "R" rating, rather than as a rumored watered down PG-13.<sup>[20][21]</sup> In July 2008, Michael Brandt and Derek Haas were hired as screenwriters to improve on the existing script,<sup>[22]</sup> and completed a new script under the working title *Beverly Hills Cop 2009*, which would see Foley return to Beverly Hills to investigate the murder of his friend Billy Rosewood.<sup>[13]</sup>

The script was eventually rejected, leaving Ratner to work on a new idea. In an interview with *Empire* magazine, Ratner stated, "I'm working very hard on the fourth. It's very difficult, especially since there were three before. We're trying to figure out some important things, like where do we start? Is Axel retired? Is he in Beverly Hills? Is he on vacation? Does Judge Reinhold return as the loveable Billy Rosewood? Many questions to figure out, but I'm hoping to have a script before film disappears from our existence."<sup>[13]</sup>

Although Murphy committed to the project, it was unconfirmed whether the series' other principal actors, Judge Reinhold, John Ashton, Ronny Cox, and Bronson Pinchot, would return.<sup>[23]</sup> Ratner stated in late 2009 that he was trying to convince Reinhold and Ashton to reprise their roles.<sup>[24]</sup> Harold Faltermeyer's

	<u>Paul Reiser</u> <u>Bronson Pinchot</u> <u>Kevin Bacon</u>
<b>Cinematography</b>	<u>Eduard Grau</u>
<b>Edited by</b>	<u>Dan Lebental</u>
<b>Music by</b>	<u>Lorne Balfe</u>
<b>Production companies</b>	<u>Paramount Pictures</u> <u>Don Simpson/Jerry Bruckheimer Films</u> <u>Eddie Murphy Productions</u>
<b>Distributed by</b>	<u>Netflix</u>
<b>Release date</b>	July 3, 2024
<b>Running time</b>	146 minutes
<b>Country</b>	United States
<b>Language</b>	English

"Axel F", would definitely be returning for the proposed fourth installment, with Ratner quoted as saying "It'll be back but it'll be a whole new interpretation."<sup>[25]</sup> On November 15, 2010, Ratner stated in an interview with MTV that there was still a possibility that they will make a fourth film, but that it wouldn't be "anytime soon."<sup>[26]</sup>

In October 2011, Murphy discussed a possible fourth film, stating, "They're not doing it. What I'm trying to do now is produce a TV show starring Axel Foley's son, and Axel is the chief of police now in Detroit. I'd do the pilot, show up here and there. None of the movie scripts were right; it was trying to force the premise. If you have to force something, you shouldn't be doing it. It was always a rehash of the old thing. It was always wrong."<sup>[27]</sup> During late Summer 2013, after CBS decided to pass on the TV series, Paramount decided to move forward with the fourth film. On September 13, 2013, Jerry Bruckheimer stated he was again in talks to produce. On December 6, 2013, it was again announced that Eddie Murphy would reprise the role of Axel Foley and Brett Ratner would direct.<sup>[28]</sup> Murphy was paid \$15 million for his involvement.<sup>[29]</sup> On May 2, 2014, *Deadline* announced that Josh Appelbaum and Andre Nemec would be writing the screenplay.<sup>[30][31]</sup>

On June 27, 2014, in an interview with *Rolling Stone*, Murphy discussed returning to the edgier type of character of Axel Foley after years of making family-friendly films. "I haven't done a street guy, working class, a blue-collar character in ages so maybe it's like, 'Oh, wow, I didn't remember he was able to do that,'" Murphy said. According to studio reports on the film's plot, Foley will return to Detroit after leaving his job in Beverly Hills and he will be faced with the coldest winter on record to navigate the new rules and old enemies of one of America's most tenacious cities. The state of Michigan approved \$13.5 million in film incentives, based on an estimated \$56.6 million of filmmaker spending in the state. The film will be shot in and around Detroit and is estimated to provide jobs for 352 workers. The film was originally scheduled for a March 25, 2016 release,<sup>[32]</sup> but on May 6, 2015, Paramount Pictures pulled *Beverly Hills Cop IV* from its release schedule, due to script concerns.<sup>[33][34]</sup> On June 14, 2016, *Deadline Hollywood* reported that Adil El Arbi and Bilall Fallah, directors of the Belgian drama *Black*, would direct the film.<sup>[35][36][37]</sup> In September 2017, Arbi and Fallah stated their interest in casting Tom Hardy or Channing Tatum to star alongside Murphy.<sup>[38]</sup>

In August 2019, the film was described as still being in the developmental phase.<sup>[39][40]</sup> On October 1, 2019, in an interview with *Collider*, Murphy announced that principal photography would begin after the filming of *Coming 2 America*.<sup>[41]</sup> On November 14, 2019, *Deadline Hollywood* announced that Paramount Pictures made a one-time license deal, with an option for a sequel, with Netflix to develop the film.<sup>[42]</sup> In May 2020, after delays in the filmmaking business caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, Arbi and Fallah confirmed they were still attached as co-directors and that a new screenwriter was working on a new script for the film.<sup>[43][44]</sup> In April 2022, Arbi and Fallah left the film to focus on *Batgirl* (prior to its cancellation),<sup>[45]</sup> with Mark Molloy hired to replace them.<sup>[46]</sup> In the same article, Will Beall was announced to have written the script.<sup>[46]</sup> In March 2023, Beall, Tom Gormican, and Kevin Etten were given credit for the screenplay, with Beall also receiving story credit.<sup>[47]</sup>

## Filming

In February 2022, the film entered pre-production and received a California state tax credit of \$16,059,000.<sup>[48]</sup> Principal photography began on August 29, 2022,<sup>[5][49][50]</sup> in San Bernardino, along with other areas in California, for 58 days, to generate \$78 million in qualified spending in tax incentives.<sup>[51]</sup> In

August 2022, Taylor Paige and Joseph Gordon-Levitt were cast in undisclosed roles.<sup>[5]</sup> In the same month, Paul Reiser and John Ashton were confirmed to reprise their roles as Det. Jeffrey Friedman and Sgt. John Taggart, respectively, from the first two films.<sup>[10][9]</sup>

In September, Judge Reinhold and Bronson Pinchot were confirmed to reprise their roles as Sgt. William "Billy" Rosewood and Serge respectively,<sup>[8][11]</sup> with Kevin Bacon and Mark Pellegrino joining the cast.<sup>[52][12]</sup> Filming occurred in Detroit in November 2022,<sup>[53]</sup> before production wrapped in early 2023.<sup>[54][1][2]</sup>

## Post-production

Dan Lebental serves as the editor.<sup>[55]</sup>

## Music

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By December 2023, it was revealed that Lorne Balfe had composed the film's score.<sup>[56]</sup>

## Release

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On February 1, 2024, a slate announcement video from Netflix revealed that *Beverly Hills Cop: Axel F* is scheduled to be released on the streaming service on July 3, 2024.<sup>[57][3]</sup>

## Accolades

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*Beverly Hills Cop: Axel F* received nominations for Location Manager of the Year – Studio Feature and Location Team of the Year – Studio Feature at the 2023 California On Location Awards.<sup>[58]</sup>

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## External links

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- *Beverly Hills Cop: Axel F* (<https://www.netflix.com/title/81076856>) on Netflix
  - *Beverly Hills Cop: Axel F* (<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt3083016/>) at IMDb
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