



Rita Kempley
Washington Post
★ TOP CRITIC



You can't expect perfection from muggles.
[Full Review](#) | Nov 24, 2001



Marc Savlov
Austin Chronicle
★ TOP CRITIC



It's the smaller touches, transposed in whole from the book, that make the film as good as it is.
[Full Review](#) | Original Score: 3/5 | Nov 16, 2001



Andrew O'Hehir
Salon.com
★ TOP CRITIC



Professional entertainment with just enough human moments to squeak by.
[Full Review](#) | Nov 18, 2001



Peter Howell
Toronto Star
★ TOP CRITIC



I doubt that most Harry Potter fans will mind a film that attends to their wishes so splendidly.
[Full Review](#) | Nov 16, 2001



Claudia Puig
USA Today
★ TOP CRITIC



Though the film will undoubtedly please the young viewers who flock to it, ultimately many of the book's readers may wish for a more magical incarnation.
[Full Review](#) | Original Score: 3/4 | Nov 16, 2001



David Edelstein
Slate
★ TOP CRITIC



As a movie, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone has no inner life – no pulse – of its own: It's secondhand.
[Full Review](#) | Nov 16, 2001



Bob Graham
San Francisco
Chronicle
★ TOP CRITIC



The magic mostly works.
[Full Review](#) | Original Score: 3/4 | Nov 16, 2001



Jonathan Foreman
New York Post
★ TOP CRITIC



Remarkably faithful, consistently entertaining if overlong adaptation.
[Full Review](#) | Original Score: 3/4 | Nov 16, 2001



John Anderson
Newsday
★ TOP CRITIC



As it is, Harry's gotten a ride. But at a much lower altitude than his fans might have wished.
[Full Review](#) | Nov 16, 2001



Rick Groen
Globe and Mail
★ TOP CRITIC



Despite the movie's pedestrian direction, our cranky old critic finds he can't deny kids the right to be enthralled.
[Full Review](#) | Original Score: 3/4 | Nov 16, 2001



Steven Rosen
Denver Post
★ TOP CRITIC



The movie needs to be stronger dramatically, with a much more appealing central performance, to be the great family-oriented screen fantasy so many wanted.
[Full Review](#) | Nov 16, 2001

-  **Kevin Maher**
The Times (UK)
 **TOP CRITIC**
- An exception big-screen half-term treat.
[Full Review](#) | Original Score: 4/5 | Oct 29, 2021
-  **Jami Bernard**
New York Daily News
 **TOP CRITIC**
- Harry Potter's first venture onto the screen is a solid blockbuster.
[Full Review](#) | Original Score: 3.5/4 | Nov 13, 2015
-  **Anthony Lane**
The New Yorker
 **TOP CRITIC**
- Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone is, despite its trickery, that plainest and least surprising of artifacts: the work of art that is exactly the sum of its parts, neither more nor less.
[Full Review](#) | Nov 27, 2013
-  **Nell Minow**
Common Sense Media
 **TOP CRITIC**
- First Potter movie is a magical ride but also intense.
[Full Review](#) | Original Score: 5/5 | Dec 24, 2010
-  **Todd McCarthy**
Variety
 **TOP CRITIC**
- A near-perfect commercial and cultural commodity.
[Full Review](#) | Mar 5, 2008
-  **Jonathan Rosenbaum**
Chicago Reader
 **TOP CRITIC**
- I hear the J.K. Rowling books are great, and on the basis of this 2001 movie I'm ready to believe it.
[Full Review](#) | Mar 5, 2008
-  **Peter Bradshaw**
Guardian
 **TOP CRITIC**
- The quickest, zapiest two and a half hours of entertainment you'll ever see.
[Full Review](#) | Jul 8, 2007
-  **Alan Morrison**
Empire Magazine
 **TOP CRITIC**
- Even though a few of the book's scenes have been cut, fans probably couldn't hope for a better adaptation. It bodes well for the rest of the series, when strong stories start taking precedence over set-up.
[Full Review](#) | Original Score: 4/5 | Dec 30, 2006
-  **Time Out**
 **TOP CRITIC**
- What a feast for children! Long, and engrossing. Kids will love it! Wizard!
[Full Review](#) | Feb 9, 2006
-  **Steven D. Greydanus**
Decent Films
 **TOP CRITIC**
- So reverentially faithful to the first book that however you feel about the book is a pretty reliable indicator of how you'll feel about the movie.
[Full Review](#) | Original Score: B | May 9, 2002
-  **Peter Rainer**
New York Magazine/Vulture
 **TOP CRITIC**
- The filmmakers want to show us a magical world that is, at the same time, wholly believable. They want to create matter-of-fact miracles, but what they end up with is mostly just plain matter-of-fact.
[Full Review](#) | Jan 22, 2002
-  **Richard Roeper**
Ebert & Roeper
 **TOP CRITIC**
- [A] complete triumph...
[Full Review](#) | Nov 27, 2001