



# Japanese Animation History Archive

Preserving the history, artistry, and cultural impact of Japanese animation — from pre-war experimentation to global modern anime.

## FEATURED SECTIONS

### Anime Eras

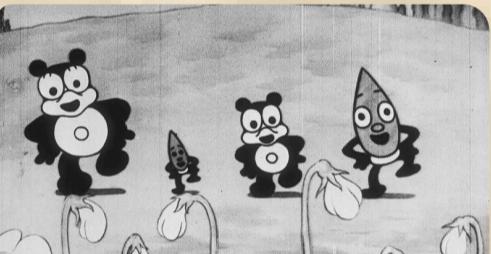


#### Popular Animation

#### Mid 1980s

The rise of iconic sc-fi and action anime from the 1980s

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#### Longest Animation

#### 1980-1990s

Explore the longest-running anime series

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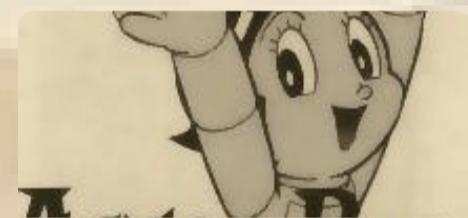
#### Color Animation

#### 1990-2000s

Vibrant and colorful anime from the 90s and 2000s

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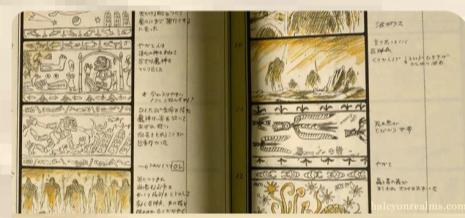
## FROM THE ARCHIVE



#### Early 1960s

#### Astro Boy (Tetsuwan Atom)

Japan's first major TV anime series, establishing the production model that shaped the industry for decades.



#### Early 1980s

#### Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind

A landmark film that signaled a new era of amateur-driven animation and environmental storytelling.



#### Late 1980s

#### Akira

A global breakthrough that redefined perceptions of anime through cinematic ambition and mature themes.



#### Timeline of Japanese Animation 1917-2020s

[View Timeline](#)

#### Timeline of Japanese Animation

1917 — 1930s — 1960s — 1980s — 2000s — 2020s

Trace over a century of Japanese animation history, and named productions

## The Japanese Animation History Archive is

This archive documents the evolution of Japanese animation through eras, studios, creators, and influential works that shaped both national culture and global media.

# Anime Eras

Take a screenshot of just the header/footer.

## YEARS COVERED

1980s



1990s



2000s



2010s



2020s



1980s

1990s

2000s

2010s

2020s

Anime gains global popularity, introducing new genres and transforming the industry.

- Anime Name
- Air Date

A golden era of shounen and shoujo hits that capture worldwide audiences.

- Anime Name
- Air Date

A boom period bringing new animation styles and breakout franchises.

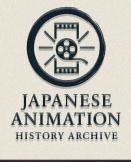
- Anime Name
- Air Date

Highly polished, diverse series dominate the anime landscape.

- Anime Name
- Air Date

Anime flourishes thanks to streaming, new technologies, and darker, mature themes

- Anime Name
- Air Date



## Studios & Creators

### FILTER BAR

[Filter by Era](#)[Filter by Role](#)[Filter by Role](#)

#### Studios Section

Studio Name: Wit Studio, Inc



Founding Year: June 1, 2012; 13 years ago

Notable Works: Wit Studio is the Japanese animation studio responsible for producing the first three seasons of Attack on Titan.

#### Creators Section

Creator Name: Eiichirō Oda



Role (Director, Writer, etc): Producer, Writer, Actor

Studio Affiliations: Eiichiro Oda is a professional mangaka affiliated with Shueisha

Notable Works: Eiichiro Oda is best known for creating the globally acclaimed manga series One Piece, which began serialization in 1997 and has become the best-selling manga in history



# Influential Series

[See All](#)



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### FEEDBACK SUMMARY

#### AVERAGE RATING

TIMMY ADAMS



#### DESCRIPTION

JIM WALTS



#### DESCRIPTION

JAMES BLACK



#### DESCRIPTION



## About the Project

PROJECT OVERVIEW

GOALS

DISCLAIMER

DESCRIPTION

TECHNOLOGIES USED

DESCRIPTION

REFERENCES

WEBSITE DATA

# Key Developments

1980s

# Influential Series

- Mecha, cyberpunk, and shounen titles like *Gundam* and *Dragon Ball* rise in popularity
- OVA (Original Video Animation) launches, allowing for more experimental and mature content
- High-budget, artistically ambitious films like *Akira* push the boundaries of animation
- Anime gains widespread, international audiences as it moves beyond Japan

## 1982 - Super Dimension Fortress Macross

A spacefaring mecha series that pioneered variable fighters and romantic drama

## 1984 - Dragon Ball

The iconic start of an anime-mega-franchise focused on martial arts and adventure

## 1984 - Zeta Gundam

A darker, more complex sequel that depended on the *Gundam* universe's lore



CLOSE

1980s

## Influential Series

description

Anime

Anime

# ALL INFLUENTIAL SERIES



**TITLE:** Hagane no renkinjutsushi (Fullmetal Alchemist)  
**RELEASE YEAR:** 2003-2004  
**STUDIO:** Bones  
**GENRE:** Action, adventure, drama, fantasy  
**EPISODES:** 51  
**SHORT DESCRIPTION:** The story explores themes of sacrifice, redemption, and the consequences of defying natural laws.



**TITLE:** HUNTER x HUNTER  
**RELEASE YEAR:** 2011-2014  
**STUDIO:** Madhouse  
**GENRE:** Action, mystery, tragedy, fantasy  
**EPISODES:** 148  
**SHORT DESCRIPTION:** Hunter x Hunter is a Japanese manga and anime series about a young boy named Gon Freecss who becomes a Hunter to find his missing father



**TITLE:** One Punch Man  
**RELEASE YEAR:** 2015- Current  
**STUDIO:** Madhouse  
**GENRE:** Action, comedy, superhero  
**EPISODES:** 49  
**SHORT DESCRIPTION:** One Punch Man is a Japanese superhero anime and manga about Saitama, a hero who can defeat any opponent with a single punch



**TITLE:** Chainsaw Man  
**RELEASE YEAR:** 2022-Current  
**STUDIO:** MAPPA  
**GENRE:** Action, dark fantasy, comedy horror  
**EPISODES:** 12  
**SHORT DESCRIPTION:** Chainsaw Man follows Denji, a poor teenager becomes the powerful Chainsaw Man, and joins a government agency to hunt devils in exchange for a better life



**TITLE:** JoJo no Kimyō na Bōken (JoJo's Bizarre Adventure)  
**RELEASE YEAR:** 2012-Current  
**STUDIO:** David Production  
**GENRE:** Action, adventure, supernatural, thriller  
**EPISODES:** 190  
**SHORT DESCRIPTION:** JoJo's Bizarre Adventure follows the Joestar family battling supernatural villains with powers like Stands and Hamon.



**TITLE:** Bleach  
**RELEASE YEAR:** 2004-2012  
**STUDIO:** Studio Pierrot  
**GENRE:** Action, adventure, supernatural, shonen  
**EPISODES:** 366  
**SHORT DESCRIPTION:** Bleach is about a teenager, Ichigo Kurosaki, who gains the powers of a Soul Reaper and must protect the living world from malevolent spirits



**TITLE:** Cyberpunk: Edgerunners  
**RELEASE YEAR:** 2022-Current  
**STUDIO:** Studio Trigger  
**GENRE:** Action, sci-fi, drama  
**EPISODES:** 10  
**SHORT DESCRIPTION:** Cyberpunk: Edgerunners is a series by Studio Trigger that follows a street kid in a dystopian future who becomes a cyber-enhanced mercenary to survive



**TITLE:** Kôdo Giasu: Hangyaku no Rurûshû (Code Geass)  
**RELEASE YEAR:** 2006-2008  
**STUDIO:** Sunrise  
**GENRE:** Alternate history, mecha, military fiction, drama  
**EPISODES:** 50  
**SHORT DESCRIPTION:** Code Geass is a story about an exiled prince who gains a supernatural power to control others and becomes the masked leader of a rebellion



**TITLE:** Mononoke-hime (Princess Mononoke)  
**RELEASE YEAR:** 1997  
**STUDIO:** Studio Ghibli  
**GENRE:** historical fantasy, drama, storytelling  
**EPISODES:** 1  
**SHORT DESCRIPTION:** Following the exiled prince Ashitaka as he journeys west to lift a deadly curse and becomes caught in a fierce conflict



**TITLE:** Kaubô Bibappu (Cowboy Bebop)  
**RELEASE YEAR:** 1998-1999  
**STUDIO:** Sunrise  
**GENRE:** neo-noir space western  
**EPISODES:** 26  
**SHORT DESCRIPTION:** Series set in 2071 that follows a crew of bounty hunters aboard the spaceship Bebop as they confront criminals and their own troubled pasts.



**TITLE:** Dandadan  
**RELEASE YEAR:** 2024-Current  
**STUDIO:** Science Saru  
**GENRE:** Supernatural horror, sci-fi, action, romance  
**EPISODES:** 24  
**SHORT DESCRIPTION:** About a girl who believes in ghosts and a boy who believes in aliens, whose clashing beliefs lead them into chaotic adventures involving spirits, aliens



**TITLE:** Dragon Ball Z  
**RELEASE YEAR:** 1996-2003  
**STUDIO:** Toei Animation  
**GENRE:** Adventure, Fantasy, Martial Arts, Comedy  
**EPISODES:** 291  
**SHORT DESCRIPTION:** Dragon Ball Z continues the story of Son Goku as an adult, following his battles to protect Earth from powerful extraterrestrial threats



**TITLE:** Steins;Gate  
**RELEASE YEAR:** 2011  
**STUDIO:** White Fox  
**GENRE:** Science Fiction, Psychological Thriller, Drama, Suspense, Comedy  
**EPISODES:** 24 (plus 1 OVA)  
**SHORT DESCRIPTION:** Following Rintaro Okabe, a mad scientist invents a device sending text messages to the past



**TITLE:** Spy x Family  
**RELEASE YEAR:** 2022  
**STUDIO:** Wit Studio, CloverWorks  
**GENRE:** Action, Comedy, Spy, Slice of Life  
**EPISODES:** 50 (3 seasons)  
**SHORT DESCRIPTION:** Spy x Family follows Loid Forger, a top spy who adopts the alias "Twilight" and forms a fake family to complete a mission.



**TITLE:** Kôkaku kidôtai (Ghost in the Shell)  
**RELEASE YEAR:** 2026 (Upcoming)  
**STUDIO:** Science Saru  
**GENRE:** Cyberpunk  
**EPISODES:** TBA (Scheduled for July 2026)  
**SHORT DESCRIPTION:** The Ghost in the Shell is an upcoming anime television series based on Masamune Shirow's original 1989-1991 manga.



**TITLE:** Poketto monsutâ (Pokémon)  
**RELEASE YEAR:** 1997  
**STUDIO:** OLM  
**GENRE:** Adventure, Fantasy, Comedy  
**EPISODES:** 1,360+ (ongoing)  
**SHORT DESCRIPTION:** PokéMon follows the journey of Ash Ketchum, a young PokéMon Trainer from Pallet Town, as he travels across various regions to become a PokéMon Master



**TITLE:** Mushoku Tensei: Jobless Reincarnation  
**RELEASE YEAR:** 2021  
**STUDIO:** Studio Bind  
**GENRE:** Fantasy, Isekai, Drama, Adventure  
**EPISODES:** 48  
**SHORT DESCRIPTION:** Mushoku Tensei: Jobless Reincarnation follows a 34-year-old NEET who dies and is reincarnated as Rudeus Greymrat in a fantasy world



**TITLE:** Mob Psycho 100  
**RELEASE YEAR:** 2016  
**STUDIO:** Bones  
**GENRE:** Action, Comedy, Supernatural, Drama, Psychological  
**EPISODES:** 37 (3 seasons) + 2 OVAs  
**SHORT DESCRIPTION:** Mob Psycho 100 follows Shigeo Kageyama, nicknamed "Mob," a middle schooler with immense psychic powers.



**TITLE:** Tokyo Ghoul  
**RELEASE YEAR:** 2014  
**STUDIO:** Pierrot  
**GENRE:** Dark Fantasy, Supernatural Thriller, Action, Drama  
**EPISODES:** 48  
**SHORT DESCRIPTION:** Tokyo Ghoul follows Ken Kaneki, a college student transformed into a half-ghoul after a failed date with a flesh-eating ghoul



**TITLE:** Herushingu (Hellsing)  
**RELEASE YEAR:** 2001  
**STUDIO:** Gonzo (TV series), Satelight / Madhouse / Graphinica (OVA Hellsing Ultimate)  
**GENRE:** Action, Dark Fantasy, Vampire, Horror  
**EPISODES:** 13 (TV series), 10 (OVA Hellsing Ultimate)  
**SHORT DESCRIPTION:** Hellsing follows the Hellsing Organization, as they defend England from supernatural threats