

Star Wars

Wikipedia Page

This article is about the media franchise as a whole. For the original 1977 film, see *Star Wars (film)*. For other uses, see *Star Wars (disambiguation)*.

Star Wars is an American [epic space opera](#)^[1] [multimedia franchise](#) created by [George Lucas](#), which began with the [eponymous 1977 film](#)^[b] and quickly became a worldwide [pop-culture phenomenon](#). The franchise has been expanded into [various films](#) and [other media](#), including [television series](#), [video games](#), [novels](#), [comic books](#), [theme park attractions](#), and [themed areas](#), comprising an all-encompassing [fictional universe](#).^[c] In 2020, its total value was estimated at US\$70 billion, and it is currently the [fifth-highest-grossing media franchise](#) of all time.

The original film (*Star Wars*), [retroactively subtitled](#) *Episode IV: A New Hope* (1977), was followed by the sequels *Episode V: The Empire Strikes Back* (1980) and *Episode VI: Return of the Jedi* (1983), forming the [original Star Wars trilogy](#). Lucas later returned to filmmaking to direct a [prequel trilogy](#), consisting of *Episode I: The Phantom Menace* (1999), *Episode II: Attack of the Clones* (2002), and *Episode III: Revenge of the Sith* (2005). In 2012, Lucas sold [his production company](#) to [Disney](#), relinquishing his ownership of the franchise. The subsequently produced [sequel trilogy](#) consists of *Episode VII: The Force Awakens*

Star Wars	
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Created by	George Lucas
Original work	<i>Star Wars</i> (1977) ^{[a][b]}
Owner	Lucasfilm Ltd.
Print publications	
Book(s)	List of reference books
Novel(s)	List of novels
Short stories	See list of novels
Comics	List of comics
Comic strip(s)	See list of comics
Magazine(s)	<i>Star Wars Insider</i> (1987–present)
Films and television	
Film(s)	Full list
	Live-action
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(2015), *Episode VIII: The Last Jedi* (2017), and *Episode IX: The Rise of Skywalker* (2019).

All nine films of the "Skywalker saga" were [nominated](#) for [Academy Awards](#), with wins going to the first two releases. Together with the theatrical live action "anthology" films *Rogue One* (2016) and *Solo* (2018), the combined box office revenue of the films equated to over US\$10 billion, which makes it the [second-highest-grossing film franchise](#) of all time.^{[3][4]} An additional film, *Rogue Squadron*, is planned for release in late 2023. A number of other films, including an independent trilogy, are suggested to be in development.

Premise

The *Star Wars* franchise depicts the adventures of characters "A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away",^[5] in which [humans](#) and many species of [aliens](#) (often [humanoid](#)) co-exist with [robots](#), or 'droids', who may assist them in their daily routines; [space travel](#) between planets is common due to [lightspeed hyperspace](#) technology.^{[6][7][8]} Spacecraft range from small [starfighters](#), to huge capital ships such as the [Star Destroyers](#), to [space stations](#) such as the moon-sized [Death Stars](#). [Telecommunication](#) includes two-way audio and [audiovisual](#) screens, and [holographic](#) projections.

A mystical power known as [the Force](#) is described in the original film as "an energy field created by all living things ... [that] binds the galaxy together".^[9] Through training and meditation, those whom "the

Short film(s)	<i>Reflections</i> (2018)
Television series	<p>Full list</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>The Mandalorian</i> (2019–present) ▪ <i>The Book of Boba Fett</i> (2021) ▪ <i>Andor</i> (2022) ▪ <i>Obi-Wan Kenobi</i> (2022)
Television special(s)	<i>Holiday Special</i> (1978)
Television film(s)	List of TV films
Games	
Role-playing	List of RPGs
Video game(s)	<p>Full list</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>X-Wing</i> (4 games; 1993–1999) ▪ <i>Jedi Knight</i> (4 games; 1995–2003) ▪ <i>Rogue Squadron</i> (3 games; 1998–2003) ▪ <i>Knights of the Old Republic</i> (4 games; 2003–present) ▪ <i>Battlefront</i> (8 games; 2004–2017) ▪ <i>Lego Star Wars</i> (6 games; 2005–present) ▪ <i>The Force Unleashed</i> (2 games; 2008–2010)
Audio	
Radio program(s)	List of radio dramas

Force is strong with" are able to perform various [superpowers](#) (such as [telekinesis](#), [precognition](#), [telepathy](#), and manipulation of physical energy).^[10] The Force is wielded by two major [knightly orders](#) at conflict with each other: the [Jedi](#), peacekeepers of the [Galactic Republic](#) who act on the light side of the Force through [non-attachment](#) and [arbitration](#), and the [Sith](#), who use the dark side by manipulating fear and aggression. While Jedi Knights can be numerous, the Dark Lords of the Sith (or 'Darth's') are intended to be limited to two: a master and their apprentice.^[11]

Original music	Music
Miscellaneous	
Toy(s)	Merchandise
Theme park attraction(s)	List of attractions

Force-wielders are very limited in numbers in comparison to the population. The Jedi and Sith prefer the use of a weapon called a [lightsaber](#), a blade of energy that can cut through virtually any surface and deflect energy bolts. The rest of the population, as well as renegades and soldiers, use laser-powered [blaster firearms](#). In the outer reaches of the galaxy, crime syndicates such as the [Hutt](#) cartel are dominant. [Bounty hunters](#) are often employed by both [gangsters](#) and governments. Illicit activities include [smuggling](#) and [slavery](#).

Film

Main article: [List of Star Wars films](#)

Film	U.S. release date	Director	Screenwriter(s)	Story by	Producer
Original trilogy					
<i>Episode IV</i> – <i>A New Hope</i>	May 25, 1977	George Lucas			Gale Kerner
<i>Episode V</i> – <i>The Empire Strikes Back</i>	May 21, 1980	Irvin Kershner	Leigh Brackett and Lawrence Kasdan	George Lucas	
<i>Episode VI</i> – <i>Return of the Jedi</i>	May 25, 1983	Richard Marquand	Lawrence Kasdan and George Lucas		Hillary Seitz Kathleen Kennedy
Prequel trilogy					
<i>Episode I</i> – <i>The Phantom Menace</i>	May 19, 1999		George Lucas		

<i>Menace</i>		George Lucas			McQuinn
<i>Episode II – Attack of the Clones</i>	May 16, 2002		George Lucas and Jonathan Hales	George Lucas	
<i>Episode III – Revenge of the Sith</i>	May 19, 2005		George Lucas		
Sequel trilogy					
<i>Episode VII – The Force Awakens</i>	December 18, 2015	J. J. Abrams	J. J. Abrams & Lawrence Kasdan and Michael Arndt		Kathleen Kennedy, Abrams, Bryn
<i>Episode VIII – The Last Jedi</i>	December 15, 2017	Rian Johnson			Kathleen Kennedy, Be
<i>Episode IX – The Rise of Skywalker</i>	December 20, 2019	J. J. Abrams	Chris Terrio & J. J. Abrams	Derek Connolly & Colin Trevorrow and Chris Terrio & J. J. Abrams	Kathleen Kennedy, Abrams, M, R
Anthology films					
<i>Rogue One</i>	December 16, 2016	Gareth Edwards	Chris Weitz and Tony Gilroy	John Knoll and Gary Whitta	Kathleen Kennedy, A, Sh
<i>Solo</i>	May 25, 2018	Ron Howard	Jonathan Kasdan & Lawrence Kasdan		and En
<i>Rogue Squadron</i>	December 22, 2023	Patty Jenkins	Matthew Robinson		Kathleen Kennedy

The *Star Wars* film series centers around three sets of trilogies, the nine films of which are collectively referred to as the "[Skywalker saga](#)".^[32] They were produced non-

chronologically, with *Episodes IV–VI* (the original trilogy) being released between 1977 and 1983, *Episodes I–III* (the prequel trilogy) being released between 1999 and 2005, and *Episodes VII–IX* (the sequel trilogy), being released between 2015 and 2019. Each trilogy focuses on a generation of the Force-sensitive [Skywalker family](#). The original trilogy depicts the heroic development of [Luke Skywalker](#), the prequels tell the backstory of his father [Anakin](#), while the sequels star Luke's nephew, [Kylo Ren](#).

An anthology series set between the main episodes entered development in parallel to the production of the sequel trilogy,^[33] described by [Disney](#) chief financial officer [Jay Rasulo](#) as *origin stories*.^[34] The first entry, *Rogue One* (2016), tells the story of the rebels who steal the Death Star plans just before *Episode IV*.^{[35][36]} *Solo* (2018) focuses on [Han Solo](#)'s backstory, also featuring original trilogy co-protagonists [Chewbacca](#) and [Lando Calrissian](#) and involving prequel trilogy villain [Darth Maul](#).

[Lucasfilm](#) has a number of *Star Wars* films in development, two of which were confirmed during Disney Investor Day 2020. The first will be a film titled *Rogue Squadron*, which is being directed by [Patty Jenkins](#), and is scheduled for release on December 22, 2023.^[37] The second is an unspecified film from [Taika Waititi](#), who in May 2020 was announced to be directing a *Star Wars* film he was co-writing with [Krysty Wilson-Cairns](#).^[38] Additionally, a trilogy independent from the Skywalker saga is being written by *The Last Jedi* writer/director [Rian Johnson](#).^{[39][40]} In September 2019, it was announced that [Kathleen Kennedy](#) and [Kevin Feige](#) would collaborate to develop a *Star Wars* film.^[41] In February 2020, a film was announced to be in development from director [J. D. Dillard](#) and writer Matt Owens.^[42]

The Skywalker saga

Main article: [Star Wars Trilogy](#)

In 1971, [George Lucas](#) wanted to film an adaptation of the *Flash Gordon serial*, but could not obtain the rights, so he began developing his own *space opera*.^{[43][d]} After directing *American Graffiti* (1973), he wrote a two-page synopsis, which [20th Century Fox](#) decided to invest in.^{[44][45]} By 1974, he had expanded the story into the first draft of a screenplay.^[46] The 1977 movie's success led Lucas to make it the basis of an elaborate *film serial*.^[47] With the backstory he created for the sequel, Lucas decided that the series



would be a trilogy of trilogies.^[48] Most of the main cast would return for the two additional installments of the original trilogy, which were self-financed by Lucasfilm.

Star Wars was released on May 25, 1977, and first subtitled *Episode IV: A New Hope* in the 1979 book *The Art of Star Wars*.^[49] *Episode*

V: The Empire Strikes Back was released on May 21, 1980, also achieving wide financial and critical success. The final film in the trilogy, *Episode VI: Return of the Jedi* was released on May 25, 1983. The story of the original trilogy focuses on Luke Skywalker's quest to become a Jedi, his struggle with the evil Imperial agent **Darth Vader**, and the struggle of the Rebel Alliance to free the galaxy from the clutches of the Galactic Empire.

Main article: [Star Wars prequel trilogy](#)

According to producer Gary Kurtz, loose plans for a prequel trilogy were developed during the outlining of the original two films.^[50] In 1980, Lucas confirmed that he had the nine-film series plotted,^[51] but due to the stress of producing the original trilogy, he had decided to cancel further sequels by 1981.^[52] In 1983, Lucas explained that "There was never a script completed that had the entire story as it exists now ... As the stories unfolded, I would take certain ideas and save them ... I kept taking out all the good parts, and I just kept telling myself I would make other movies someday."^[53]

Technical advances in the late 1980s and early 1990s, including the ability to create computer-generated imagery (CGI), inspired

Lucas to consider that it might be possible to revisit his saga. In 1989, Lucas stated that the prequels would be "unbelievably expensive."^[54] In 1992, he acknowledged that he had plans to create the prequel trilogy.^[55] A theatrical rerelease of the original trilogy in 1997 "[updated](#)" the 20-year-old films with the style of CGI envisioned for the new trilogy.

Episode I: The Phantom Menace was released on May 19, 1999, and *Episode II: Attack*



The original trilogy's main cast includes (from left to right) [Mark Hamill](#) (Luke Skywalker), [Harrison Ford](#) (Han Solo), [Carrie Fisher](#) (Princess Leia), and [James Earl Jones](#) (Darth Vader's voice).



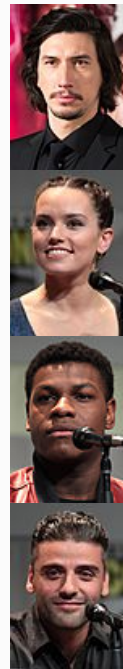
The prequel trilogy's main cast includes (from left to right) [Ewan McGregor](#) (Obi-Wan Kenobi), [Natalie Portman](#) (Padmé Amidala), [Hayden Christensen](#) (Anakin Skywalker),^[e] and [Ian McDiarmid](#) (Palpatine).

of the Clones on May 16, 2002. *Episode III: Revenge of the Sith*, the first PG-13 film in the franchise, was released on May 19, 2005.^[56] The first two movies were met with mixed reviews, with the third being received somewhat more positively. The trilogy begins 32 years before *Episode IV* and follows the Jedi training of Anakin Skywalker, Luke's father, and his eventual fall from grace and transformation into the Sith lord Darth Vader, as well as the corruption of the Galactic Republic and rise of the Empire led by Darth Sidious. Together with the original trilogy, Lucas has collectively referred to the first six episodic films of the franchise as "the tragedy of Darth Vader".^[57]

Main article: [Star Wars sequel trilogy](#)

Prior to releasing the original film, and made possible by its success, Lucas planned "three trilogies of nine films."^{[48][58]} He announced this to *Time* in 1978,^[59] and confirmed that he had outlined them in 1981.^[60] At various stages of development, the sequel trilogy was to focus on the rebuilding of the Republic,^[61] the return of Luke in a role similar to that of Obi-Wan in the original trilogy,^[58] Luke's sister (not yet determined to be [Leia](#)),^[50] Han, Leia,^[62] R2-D2 and C-3PO.^{[48][63]} However, after beginning work on the prequel trilogy, Lucas insisted that *Star Wars* was meant to be a six-part series and that there would be no sequel trilogy.^{[64][65]}

Lucas decided to leave the franchise in the hands of other filmmakers, announcing in January 2012 that he would make no more *Star Wars* films.^[66] In October of that year, the Walt Disney Company agreed to buy Lucasfilm and announced that *Episode VII* would be released in 2015.^[67] The co-chairman of Lucasfilm, [Kathleen Kennedy](#), became president of the company and served as executive producer of new *Star Wars* feature films.^[68] Lucas provided Kennedy his story treatments for the sequels during the 2012 sale,^[69] but in 2015 it was revealed Lucas's sequel outline had been discarded.^{[70][71]} The sequel trilogy also meant the end of the existing *Star Wars* Expanded Universe, which was discarded from canon to give "maximum creative freedom to the filmmakers and also preserve an element of surprise and discovery for the audience."^[2]



The sequel trilogy's main cast includes (from left to right) [Adam Driver](#) (Kylo Ren), [Daisy Ridley](#) (Rey), [John Boyega](#) (Finn), and [Oscar Isaac](#) (Poe Dameron).

Episode VII: The Force Awakens was released on December 16, 2015, *Episode VIII: The*

Last Jedi on December 13, 2017, and *Episode IX: The Rise of Skywalker* on December 18, 2019, in many countries.^[f] *The Force Awakens* and *The Last Jedi* were both critical and box office successes.^{[72][73]} *Episode IX* received a mixed reception from critics and audiences.^[74] The sequel trilogy starts 30 years after *Episode VI* and focuses on the journey of the Force-sensitive orphan **Rey**, guided by Luke Skywalker. Along with ex-stormtrooper **Finn** and ace X-Wing pilot **Poe Dameron**, Rey helps the **Resistance**, led by Leia, fight the **First Order**, commanded by Han and Leia's son (and Luke's nephew), Kylo Ren.

Anthology films

Lucasfilm and Kennedy have stated that the standalone films would be referred to as the *Star Wars* anthology series^[35] (though the word *anthology* has not been used in any of the titles, instead carrying the promotional "A *Star Wars* Story" subtitle). Focused on how the Rebels obtained the Death Star plans introduced in the 1977 film, the first anthology film, *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*, was released on December 16, 2016, to favorable reviews and box office success. The second, *Solo: A Star Wars Story*, centered on a young Han Solo with Chewbacca and Lando as supporting characters, was released on May 25, 2018, to generally favorable reviews and underperformance at the box office. Despite this, more anthology films are expected to be released,^[75] following a hiatus after 2019's *The Rise of Skywalker*.^[76]



The anthology films' main casts include (from left to right) **Felicity Jones** (Jyn Erso) and **Diego Luna** (Cassian Andor) from *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story* and **Alden Ehrenreich** (Han Solo) and **Woody Harrelson** (Tobias Beckett) from *Solo: A Star Wars Story* .

Television

The *Star Wars* franchise has been spun off to various television productions, including two animated series released in the mid-1980s. Further animated series began to be released in the 2000s, the first two of which focused on the **Clone Wars**. After Disney's acquisition of Lucasfilm, only the later one remained canon. Eight live-action *Star Wars* series will be released on **Disney+**. The first, *The Mandalorian*, premiered on November 12, 2019. *Star Wars* won the 2020 Webby Award for Television & Film in the category Social.^[77] Disney+ later released the *Ewoks* movies and animated series, along the

animated first appearance of Boba Fett, and the Clone Wars animated micro-series in a section called *Star Wars Vintage*, that section will also include the *Droids* animated series in the future.^{[78][79]} Certain aspects of the original *Clone Wars* micro-series are considered to not contradict the canon, while others do.^[80]

A live-action spinoff of [The Mandalorian](#), titled *The Book of Boba Fett*, was announced in December 2020 and is set to be released on December 29, 2021.^[81]

Series

Main article: [List of Star Wars television series](#)

Many *Star Wars* series have been produced, both animated and live-action. The first being *Star Wars: Droids* in 1985, and the next being *The Book of Boba Fett* in December.

The Mandalorian, the first live-action series to take place in the *Star Wars* universe has spawned multiple spinoffs and inspired other live-action series to be created. Confirmed upcoming series include *Andor*, *Ahsoka*, *Obi-Wan Kenobi*, *Rangers of the New Republic*, *The Acolyte*, and *Lando*.

Series	Seasons	Episodes	Originally released	Network
Animated series				
<i>Droids</i>	1	13	September 7, 1985 – June 7, 1986	ABC
<i>Ewoks</i>	2	26	September 7, 1985 – December 13, 1986	
<i>The Clone Wars</i>	7	133	October 3, 2008 – May 4, 2020	Cartoon Network / Netflix / Disney+
<i>Rebels</i>	4	75	October 3, 2014 – March 5, 2018	Disney XD
<i>Resistance</i>	2	40	October 7, 2018 – January 26, 2020	Disney Channel
<i>The Bad Batch</i>	1	16	May 4, 2021 – present	Disney+
<i>Visions</i>	1	9	September 22, 2021	
Animated micro-series				
<i>Clone Wars</i>	3	25	November 7, 2003 – March 25, 2005	Cartoon Network
<i>Blips</i>	1	8	May 3 – September 4, 2017	YouTube
<i>Forces of Destiny</i>	2	32	July 3, 2017 – May 25, 2018	
<i>Galaxy of Adventures</i>	2	55	November 30, 2018 – October 2, 2020	
<i>Roll Out</i>	1	16	August 9, 2019 – April 1, 2020	
Live-action series				
<i>The Mandalorian</i>	2	16	November 12, 2019 – present	Disney+
Game shows				
<i>Jedi Temple Challenge</i>	1	10	June 10 – August 5, 2020	StarWarsKids.com

Films

Main article: *Ewok*

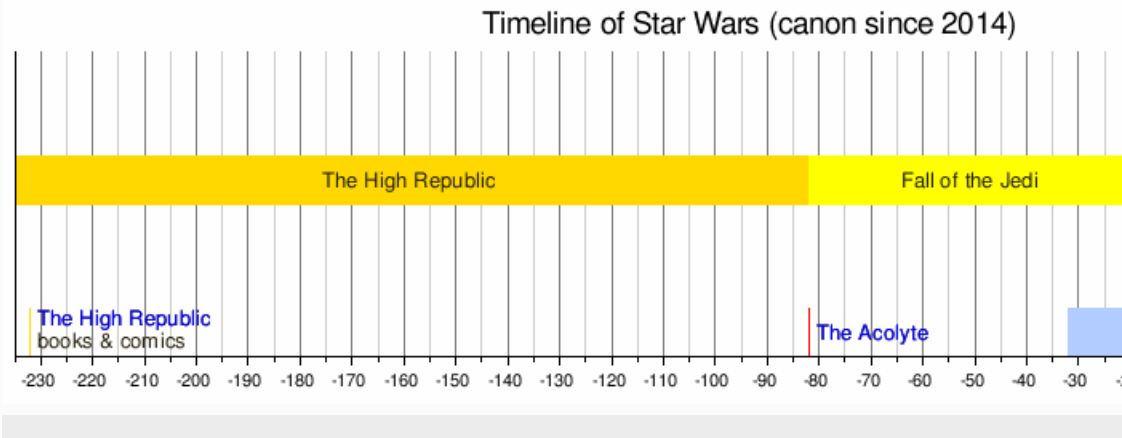
Film	U.S. release date	Director(s)	Teleplay by	Story by	Producer(s)
<i>The Ewok Adventure</i>	November 25, 1984	John Korty	Bob Carrau	George Lucas	Thomas G. Smith and Patricia Rose Duignan
<i>Ewoks: The Battle for Endor</i>	November 24, 1985	Jim Wheat and Ken Wheat			Thomas G. Smith and Ian Bryce

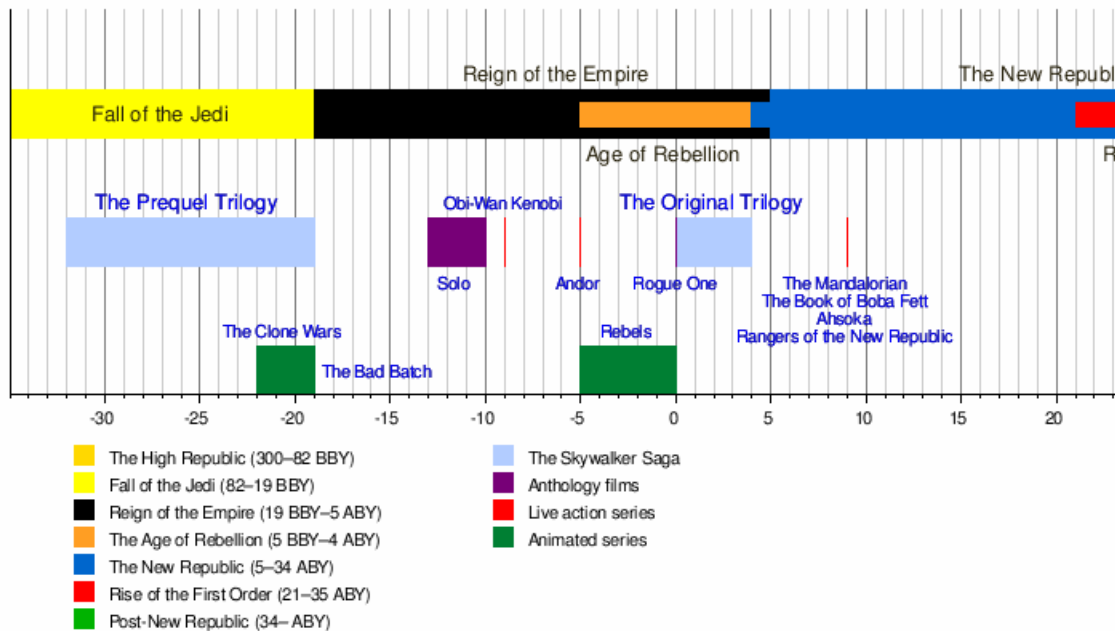
Television special

Film	U.S. release date	Director(s)	Teleplay by	Story by	Producer(s)	Ne
<i>Star Wars Holiday Special</i>	November 17, 1978	Steve Binder	Pat Proft , Leonard Ripps, Bruce Vilanch , Rod Warren , and Mitzie Welch		Joe Layton, Jeff Starsh, Ken Welch, and Mitzie Welch	

Fictional timeline

See also: *Star Wars in other media § Legends fictional timeline*





The *Star Wars* canon [fictional universe](#) spans multiple eras, of which three are focused around each of the film trilogies. The following eras were defined in January 2021:^[82]

- **The High Republic:** The era of the "High Republic", set 200 years before the [prequel trilogy](#). It includes the media released in *The High Republic* and the upcoming *The Acolyte*.^[82]
- **Fall of the Jedi:** The era of the prequel trilogy,^[g] in which the democratic Galactic Republic is corrupted by its ruler, [Palpatine](#)—secretly the Sith lord Darth Sidious. After orchestrating the [Clone Wars](#) between the Republic and a Separatist [confederation](#), Palpatine exterminates the Jedi Order, [overthrows](#) the Republic, and establishes the [totalitarian Galactic Empire](#).^{[84][85]} It includes the prequel trilogy films and the animated *The Clone Wars*.^[82]
- **Reign of the Empire:** The era after the prequel trilogy, exploring the reign of the Empire. It includes the animated *The Bad Batch* and *Solo: A Star Wars Story*.^[82]
- **The Age of Rebellion:** The era of the [original trilogy](#),^[h] in which the Empire is fought by the [Rebel Alliance](#) in a Galactic Civil War that spans several years, climaxing with the death of the emperor and fall of the Empire.^{[87][88]} It includes the animated *Star Wars Rebels*, *Rogue One*, and the original trilogy films.^[82]
- **The New Republic:** The era after the original trilogy, set during the formative years of the [New Republic](#) following the fall of the Empire. It includes *The Mandalorian* and its spin-off series, *The Book of Boba Fett*, *Rangers of the New Republic*, and *Ahsoka*.^[82]
- **Rise of the First Order:** The era of the [sequel trilogy](#),^[i] in which the remnants of the Empire have reformed as the [First Order](#).^[90] Heroes of the former Rebellion,

aided by the New Republic, lead the [Resistance](#) against the oppressive regime and its rulers—the mysterious being known as [Snoke](#) and the revived Palpatine.^[91] It includes the animated [Star Wars Resistance](#) and the sequel trilogy films.^[82]

The [Expanded Universe](#) of spin-off media depicts different levels of continuity, which were deemed non-canonical and rebranded as *Legends* on April 25, 2014, to make most subsequent works align to the episodic films, [The Clone Wars film](#), and [television series](#).^[2]

Other media

Main article: [Star Wars expanded to other media](#)

From 1976 to 2014, the term *Expanded Universe* (EU) was an umbrella term for all officially licensed *Star Wars* storytelling material set outside the events depicted within the theatrical films, including novels, comics, and video games.^[92] Lucasfilm maintained internal continuity between the films and television content and the EU material until April 25, 2014, when the company announced all of the EU works would cease production. Existing works would no longer be considered canon to the franchise and subsequent reprints would be rebranded under the *Star Wars Legends* label,^[92] with downloadable content for the [massively multiplayer online game](#) *The Old Republic* the only *Legends* material to still be produced. The *Star Wars* canon was subsequently restructured to only include the existing six feature films, the animated film [The Clone Wars](#) (2008), and its companion animated series. All future projects and creative developments across all types of media would be overseen and coordinated by the story group, announced as a division of Lucasfilm created to maintain continuity and a cohesive vision on the storytelling of the franchise.^[2] Multiple comics series from [Marvel](#) and novels published by [Del Rey](#) were produced after the announcement.

Print media

Star Wars in print predates the release of the first film, with the November 1976 [novelization](#) of *Star Wars*, initially subtitled "[From the Adventures of Luke Skywalker](#)". Credited to Lucas, it was [ghostwritten](#) by [Alan Dean Foster](#).^[93] The first "Expanded Universe" story appeared in [Marvel Comics'](#) *Star Wars* #7 in January 1978 (the first six issues being an adaptation of the film), followed by Foster's sequel novel [Splinter of the Mind's Eye](#) the following month.

Further information: [List of Star Wars books](#)

After penning the novelization of the original film, Foster followed it with the sequel *Splinter of the Mind's Eye* (1978). The novelizations of *The Empire Strikes Back* (1980) by Donald F. Glut and *Return of the Jedi* (1983) by James Kahn followed, as well as *The Han Solo Adventures* trilogy (1979–1980) by Brian Daley,^[94] and *The Adventures of Lando Calrissian* trilogy (1983) by L. Neil Smith.^{[95][96]}



Timothy Zahn authored the *Thrawn* trilogy, which was widely credited with revitalizing the dormant *Star Wars* franchise.

Timothy Zahn's bestselling *Thrawn* trilogy (1991–1993) reignited interest in the franchise and introduced the popular characters Grand Admiral Thrawn, Mara Jade, Talon Karrde, and Gilad Pellaeon.^{[97][98][99][100]} The first novel, *Heir to the Empire*, reached #1 on the *New York Times* Best Seller list,^[101] and the series finds Luke, Leia, and Han facing off against tactical genius Thrawn, who is plotting to retake the galaxy for the Empire.^[102] In *The Courtship of Princess Leia* (1994) by Dave Wolverton, set immediately before the *Thrawn* trilogy, Leia considers an advantageous political marriage to Prince Isolder of the planet Hapes, but she and Han ultimately marry.^{[103][104]} Steve Perry's *Shadows of the Empire* (1996), set between *The Empire Strikes Back* and *Return of the Jedi*, was part of a multimedia campaign that included a comic book series and video game.^{[105][106]} The novel introduced the crime lord Prince Xizor, another popular character who would appear in multiple other works.^{[105][107]} Other notable series from Bantam include the *Jedi Academy* trilogy (1994) by Kevin J. Anderson,^{[108][109]} the 14-book *Young Jedi Knights* series (1995–1998) by Anderson and Rebecca Moesta,^{[109][110]} and the *X-wing* series (1996–2012) by Michael A. Stackpole and Aaron Allston.^{[111][112][113]}

Del Rey took over *Star Wars* book publishing in 1999, releasing what would become a 19-installment novel series called *The New Jedi Order* (1999–2003). Written by multiple authors, the series was set 25 to 30 years after the original films and introduced the Yuuzhan Vong, a powerful alien race attempting to invade and conquer the entire galaxy.^{[114][115]} The bestselling multi-author series *Legacy of the Force* (2006–2008) chronicles the crossover of Han and Leia's son Jacen Solo to the dark side of the Force; among his evil deeds, he kills Luke's wife Mara Jade as a sacrifice to join the Sith. Although no longer canon, the story is paralleled in *The Force Awakens* with Han and Leia's son Ben Solo, who has become the dark Kylo Ren.^{[116][117][118][119]}

Three series set in the prequel era were introduced for younger audiences: the 18-book *Jedi Apprentice* (1999–2002) chronicles the adventures of Obi-Wan Kenobi and his master Qui-Gon Jinn in the years before *The Phantom Menace*; the 11-book *Jedi Quest* (2001–2004) follows Obi-Wan and his own apprentice, Anakin Skywalker in between

The Phantom Menace and *Attack of the Clones*; and the 10-book *The Last of the Jedi* (2005–2008), set almost immediately after *Revenge of the Sith*, features Obi-Wan and the last few surviving Jedi.

Although Thrawn had been designated a *Legends* character in 2014, he was reintroduced into the canon in the 2016 third season of *Rebels*, with Zahn returning to write more novels based in the character, and set in the new canon.^{[120][121]}

Main articles: [Star Wars comics](#) and [List of Star Wars comic books](#)

Marvel Comics published a *Star Wars* comic book series from 1977 to 1986.^{[122][123][124][125]} Original *Star Wars* comics were serialized in the Marvel magazine *Pizzazz* between 1977 and 1979. The 1977 installments were the first original *Star Wars* stories not directly adapted from the films to appear in print form, as they preceded those of the *Star Wars* comic series.^[126] From 1985 to 1987, the animated children's series *Ewoks* and *Droids* inspired comic series from Marvel's *Star Comics* line.^{[127][128][129]} According to [Marvel comics](#) former Editor-In-Chief Jim Shooter, the strong sales of *Star Wars* comics saved Marvel financially in 1977 and 1978.^[130] Marvel's *Star Wars* series was one of the industry's top selling titles in 1979 and 1980.^[131] The only downside for Marvel was that the 100,000 copy sales quota was surpassed quickly, allowing Lippincott to renegotiate the royalty arrangements from a position of strength.^[132]

In the late 1980s, Marvel dropped a new *Star Wars* comic it had in development, which was picked up by [Dark Horse Comics](#) and published as the popular *Dark Empire* series (1991–1995).^[133] Dark Horse subsequently launched dozens of series set after the original film trilogy, including *Tales of the Jedi* (1993–1998), *X-wing Rogue Squadron* (1995–1998), *Star Wars: Republic* (1998–2006), *Star Wars Tales* (1999–2005), *Star Wars: Empire* (2002–2006), and *Knights of the Old Republic* (2006–2010).^{[134][135]}

After Disney's acquisition of Lucasfilm, it was announced in January 2014 that in 2015 the *Star Wars* comics license would return to Marvel Comics,^[136] whose parent company, [Marvel Entertainment](#), Disney had purchased in 2009.^[137] Launched in 2015, the first three publications were titled *Star Wars*, *Darth Vader*, and the limited series *Princess Leia*.^{[138][139][140]}

First announced as *Project Luminous* at Star Wars Celebration in April 2019, full details of a publishing initiative called *Star Wars: The High Republic* were revealed in a press conference in February 2020. Involving the majority of the current officially licensed publishers, a new era set 200 years before the Skywalker Saga will be explored in various books and comics. These include ongoing titles by Marvel and IDW Publishing,

written by Cavan Scott and Daniel José Older respectively, that will both premiere in August 2020.^[141]

Audio

Further information: [Music of Star Wars](#)

[John Williams](#) composed the soundtracks for the nine episodic films; he has stated that he will retire from the franchise with *The Rise of Skywalker*.^[142] He also composed Han Solo's theme for *Solo: A Star Wars Story*; [John Powell](#) adapted and composed the rest of the score.^[143] [Michael Giacchino](#) composed the score of *Rogue One*.^[143] [Ludwig Göransson](#) scored and composed the music of *The Mandalorian*.^[144] Williams also created the main theme for *Galaxy's Edge*.^[145]

Further information: [The Story of Star Wars](#) and [List of Star Wars books](#)

The first *Star Wars* audio work is *The Story of Star Wars*, an LP using audio samples from the original film and a new narration to retell the story, released in 1977. Most later printed novels were adapted into audio novels, usually released on [cassette tape](#) and re-released on [CD](#). As of 2019, audio-only novels have been released not directly based on printed media.^[146]

Further information: [Star Wars \(radio\)](#)

Radio adaptations of the films were also produced. Lucas, a fan of the NPR-affiliated [campus radio](#) station of his alma mater the [University of Southern California](#), licensed the *Star Wars* radio rights to [KUSC-FM](#) for US\$1. The production used John Williams's original film score, along with [Ben Burtt](#)'s sound effects.^{[147][148]}

The first was written by science-fiction author [Brian Daley](#) and directed by [John Madden](#). It was broadcast on [National Public Radio](#) in 1981, adapting [the original 1977 film](#) into 13 episodes.^{[149][147][148]} [Mark Hamill](#) and [Anthony Daniels](#) reprised their film roles.^{[149][147]}

The overwhelming success, led to a 10-episode adaptation of *The Empire Strikes Back* debuted in 1983.^[150] [Billy Dee Williams](#) joined the other two stars, reprising his role as Lando Calrissian.^[151]

In 1983, [Buena Vista Records](#) released an original, 30-minute *Star Wars* [audio drama](#) titled *Rebel Mission to Ord Mantell*, written by Daley.^{[148][152]} In the 1990s, [Time Warner Audio Publishing](#) adapted several *Star Wars* series from [Dark Horse Comics](#) into audio dramas: the three-part *Dark Empire* saga, *Tales of the Jedi*, *Dark Lords of the Sith*, the *Dark Forces* trilogy, and *Crimson Empire* (1998).^[152] *Return of the Jedi*

was adapted into 6-episodes in 1996, featuring Daniels.^{[147][152]}

Video games

Further information: [Star Wars video games](#) and [List of Star Wars video games](#)

The *Star Wars* franchise has spawned over one hundred^[153] computer, video, and board games, dating back to some of the earliest [home consoles](#). Some are based directly on the movie material, while others rely heavily on the non-canonical Expanded Universe (rebranded as *Star Wars Legends* and removed from the canon in 2014). *Star Wars* games have gone through three significant development eras, marked by a change in leadership among the developers: the early licensed games, those developed after the creation of LucasArts, and those created after the closure of the Lucasfilm division by Disney and the transfer of the license to [Electronic Arts](#).

The first officially licensed electronic *Star Wars* game was [Kenner's](#) 1979 table-top *Star Wars Electronic Battle Command*.^{[154][155]} In 1982, [Parker Brothers](#) published the first *Star Wars* video game for the [Atari 2600](#), *Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back*,^[156] followed soon the year later by *Star Wars: Jedi Arena*, the first video game to depict lightsaber combat. They were followed in 1983 by [Atari's](#) rail shooter arcade game *Star Wars*, with [vector graphics](#) to replicate the Death Star trench run scene from the 1977 film.^[157] The next game, *Star Wars: Return of the Jedi* (1984), has more traditional [raster graphics](#),^[158] while the following *Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back* (1985) has vector graphics.^[159]

[Platform games](#) were made for the [Nintendo Entertainment System](#), including the Japan-exclusive *Star Wars* (1987), an international *Star Wars* (1991), and *Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back* (1992). *Super Star Wars* (1992) was released for the [Super Nintendo Entertainment System](#), with two sequels over the next two years.

Main article: [LucasArts](#)

Lucasfilm founded its own video game company in 1982, becoming best known for adventure games and [World War II](#) flight combat games, but as George Lucas took more interest in the increasing success of the video game market, he wanted to have more creative control over the games and founded his own development company, [LucasArts](#). Improved graphics allowed games to tell complex narratives, which allowed for the retelling of the films, and eventually original narratives set in the same continuity, with voice-overs and CGI [cutscenes](#). In 1993, LucasArts released *Star Wars: X-Wing*, the first self-published *Star Wars* video game and the first [space flight simulator](#) based on the franchise.^[160] It was one of the best-selling video games of 1993 and established its

own [series of games](#).^[160] The *Rogue Squadron series* was released between 1998 and 2003, also focusing on space battles set during the films.

Dark Forces (1995), a hybrid [adventure game](#) incorporating puzzles and strategy,^[161] was the first *Star Wars* [first-person shooter](#).^[162] It featured gameplay and graphical features not then common in other games, made possible by LucasArts' custom-designed [game engine](#), the *Jedi*.^{[162][161][163][164]} The game was well received,^{[165][166][167]} and it was followed by [four sequels](#).^{[168][169]} The series introduced [Kyle Katarn](#), who would appear in multiple games, novels, and comics.^[170] Katarn is a former [stormtrooper](#) who joins the Rebellion and becomes a Jedi,^{[162][171][172]} a plot arc similar to that of Finn in the sequel trilogy films.^[116] A [massively multiplayer online role-playing game](#), *Star Wars Galaxies*, was in operation from 2003 until 2011. After Disney bought Lucasfilm, LucasArts ceased its role as a developer in 2013, although it still operates as a [licensor](#).^[173]

Following its acquisition of the franchise, Disney reassigned video game rights to [Electronic Arts](#). Games made during this era are considered canonical, and feature more influence from the *Star Wars* filmmakers. Disney partnered with [Lenovo](#) to create the [augmented reality](#) video game *Jedi Challenges*, released in November 2017.^{[174][175]} In August 2018, it was announced that [Zynga](#) would publish [free-to-play](#) *Star Wars* mobile games.^[176] The *Battlefront* games received a canonical reboot with *Star Wars: Battlefront* in November 2015, which was followed by a sequel, *Battlefront II*, in November 2017. A single-player action-adventure game, *Star Wars Jedi: Fallen Order*, with an original story and cast of characters, was released in November 2019. A [space combat game](#) titled *Star Wars: Squadrons*, which builds upon the space battles from *Battlefront*, was released in October 2020.

Theme park attractions

Main article: [List of Star Wars theme parks attractions](#)

In addition to the [Disneyland](#) ride *Star Tours* (1987) and its successor, *Star Tours: The Adventures Continue* (2011), many live attractions have been held at Disney parks, including the travelling exhibition [Where Science Meets Imagination](#), the [Space Mountain](#) spin-off [Hyperspace Mountain](#), a walkthrough [Launch Bay](#), and the night-time *A Galactic Spectacular*. An immersive themed area called [Galaxy's Edge](#) (2019) opened at [Disneyland](#) and opened at [Walt Disney World](#) in mid-2019.^[177] A themed hotel, *Star Wars: Galactic Starcruiser*, is currently under construction at Walt Disney World.^[178]

Title	Park(s)	Opening date	Closing date
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<i>Star Tours</i>	Disneyland	January 9, 1987	July 27, 2010
	Tokyo Disneyland	July 12, 1989	April 2, 2012
	Disney's Hollywood Studios	December 15, 1989	September 7, 2010
	Disneyland Paris	April 12, 1992	March 16, 2016
<i>Star Wars Weekends</i>	Disney's Hollywood Studios	1997	November 2015
<i>Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination</i>	Multiple locations	October 19, 2005	March 23, 2014
<i>Jedi Training Academy</i>	Disneyland	July 1, 2006	November 15, 2015
	Disney's Hollywood Studios	October 9, 2007	October 5, 2015
<i>Star Tours: The Adventures Continue</i>	Disney's Hollywood Studios	May 20, 2011	N/A (Operating)
	Disneyland	June 3, 2011	
	Tokyo Disneyland	May 7, 2013	
	Disneyland Paris	March 26, 2017	
<i>Star Wars: Hyperspace Mountain</i>	Disneyland	November 14, 2015	
	Hong Kong Disneyland	June 11, 2016	
	Disneyland Paris	May 7, 2017	
<i>Star Wars Launch Bay</i>	Disneyland	November 16, 2015	
	Disney's Hollywood Studios	December 4, 2015	
	Shanghai Disneyland Park	June 16, 2016	

<i>Jedi Training: Trials of the Temple</i>	Disney's Hollywood Studios	December 1, 2015	N/A (Operating)
	Disneyland	December 8, 2015	
	Disneyland Paris	July 11, 2015	
	Hong Kong Disneyland	June 25, 2016	
<i>Star Wars: A Galactic Spectacular</i>	Disney's Hollywood Studios	June 17, 2016	
<i>Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge</i>	Disneyland	May 31, 2019	
	Disney's Hollywood Studios	August 29, 2019	
<i>Star Wars: Millennium Falcon - Smugglers Run</i>	Disneyland	May 31, 2019	
	Disney's Hollywood Studios	August 29, 2019	
<i>Star Wars: Rise of the Resistance</i>	Disney's Hollywood Studios	December 5, 2019	
	Disneyland	January 17, 2020	

Multimedia projects

A multimedia project involves works released across multiple types of media. *Shadows of the Empire* (1996) was a multimedia project set between *The Empire Strikes Back* and *Return of the Jedi* that included a novel by [Steve Perry](#), a comic book series, [a video game](#), and action figures.^{[105][106]} *The Force Unleashed* (2008–2010) was a similar project set between *Revenge of the Sith* and *A New Hope* that included a novel, a [2008 video game](#) and its [2010 sequel](#), a [graphic novel](#), a [role-playing game](#) supplement, and toys.^{[179][180]}

Merchandising

Main articles: [Kenner Star Wars action figures](#), [List of Kenner Star Wars action figures](#), [Star Wars: The Vintage Collection](#), [Lego Star Wars](#), [Star Wars trading card](#), and [Star Wars role-](#)

playing games

The success of the *Star Wars* films led the franchise to become one of the most merchandised franchises in the world. While filming the original 1977 film, George Lucas decided to take a \$500,000 pay cut to his salary as director in exchange for full ownership of the franchise's merchandising rights. By 1987, the first three films have made US\$2.6 billion in merchandising revenue.^[181] By 2012, the first six films produced approximately US\$20 billion in merchandising revenue.^[182]



George Lucas made much of his fortune by retaining his rights to the franchise's merchandising.

Kenner made the first *Star Wars* action figures to coincide with the release of the original film, and today the original figures are highly valuable. Since the 1990s, Hasbro holds the rights to create action figures based on the saga. *Pez dispensers* began to be produced in 1997.^[183] *Star Wars* was the first intellectual property to be licensed in *Lego* history.^[184] *Lego* has produced animated parody short films and mini-series to promote their *Star Wars* sets.^[185] The *Lego Star Wars* video games are critically acclaimed bestsellers.^{[186][187]}

In 1977, the board game *Star Wars: Escape from the Death Star* was released.^{[188][j]} A *Star Wars Monopoly* and themed versions of *Trivial Pursuit* and *Battleship* were released in 1997, with updated versions released in subsequent years. The board game *Risk* has been adapted in two editions by Hasbro: *The Clone Wars Edition* (2005)^[190] and the *Original Trilogy Edition* (2006).^[191] Three *Star Wars* tabletop role-playing games have been developed: a version by West End Games in the 1980s and 1990s, one by Wizards of the Coast in the 2000s, and one by Fantasy Flight Games in the 2010s.

Star Wars Trading Cards have been published since the first "blue" series, by Topps, in 1977.^[192] Dozens of series have been produced, with Topps being the licensed creator in the United States. Each card series are of film stills or original art. Many of the cards have become highly collectible with some very rare "promos", such as the 1993 Galaxy Series II "floating Yoda" P3 card often commanding US\$1,000 or more. While most "base" or "common card" sets are plentiful, many "insert" or "chase cards" are very rare.^[193] From 1995 until 2001, Decipher, Inc. had the license for, created, and produced the *Star Wars Customizable Card Game*.

Themes

See also: *Star Wars sources and analogues*, *Star Wars trilogy § Themes*, *Star Wars prequel trilogy § Themes*, *Star Wars prequel trilogy § Themes*, and *The Mandalorian § Themes*

Star Wars features elements such as [knighthood](#), [chivalry](#), and [Jungian archetypes](#) such as "[the shadow](#)".^[194] There are also many references to [Christianity](#), such as in the appearance of [Darth Maul](#), whose design draws heavily from traditional depictions of the [devil](#).^[195] Anakin was conceived of a [virgin birth](#), and is assumed to be the "[Chosen One](#)", a [messianic](#) individual. However, unlike [Jesus](#), Anakin falls from grace, remaining evil as Darth Vader until *Return of the Jedi*. According to [Adam Driver](#), sequel trilogy villain Kylo Ren, who idolizes Vader, believes he is "doing what he thinks is right".^[196] George Lucas has said that the theme of the saga is redemption.^[197]

The saga draws heavily from the [hero's journey](#), an archetypal template developed by [comparative mythologist Joseph Campbell](#).^[195] Each character—primarily Anakin, Luke, and Rey—follows the steps of the cycle or undergoes its reversal, becoming the villain.^[198] A defining step of the journey is "Atonement with the Father".^[199] Obi-Wan's loss of a [father figure](#) could have impacted his relationship with Anakin,^[200] whom both Obi-Wan and Palpatine are fatherlike mentors to.^[201] Luke's discovery that Vader is his father has strong repercussions on the saga and is regarded as one of the most influential [plot twists](#) in cinema.^[202] [Supreme Leader Snoke](#) encourages Kylo Ren to kill his father, Han Solo.^[196] Kylo uses the fact that Rey is an orphan to tempt her into joining the dark side.^[203] According to [Inverse](#), the final scene in *The Last Jedi*, which depicts servant children playing with a toy of Luke and one boy using the Force, symbolizes that "the Force can be found in people with humble beginnings."^[204]

Historical influences

[Political science](#) has been an important element of *Star Wars* since the franchise launched in 1977, focusing on a struggle between [democracy](#) and [dictatorship](#). Battles featuring the [Ewoks](#) and [Gungans](#) against the Empire and [Trade Federation](#), respectively, represent the clash between a primitive society and a more advanced one, similar to the [Vietnam-American War](#).^{[205][206]} Darth Vader's design was initially inspired by [Samurai armor](#), and also incorporated a [German military helmet](#).^{[207][208]} Originally, Lucas conceived of the Sith as a group that served the Emperor in the same way that the [Schutzstaffel](#) served [Adolf Hitler](#); this was condensed into one character in the form of Vader.^[209] [Stormtroopers](#) borrow the name of World War I German "[shock](#)" [troopers](#). Imperial officers wear uniforms resembling [those of German forces during World War II](#),^[210] and political and security officers resemble the black-clad SS down to the stylized silver [death's head](#) on their caps. [World War II](#) terms were used for names in the films; *e.g.* the planets [Kessel](#) (a term that refers to a group of [encircled forces](#)) and [Hoth](#) (after a [German general](#) who served on the snow-laden Eastern Front).^[211] Shots of the commanders looking through [AT-AT](#) walker viewscreens in *The Empire Strikes Back* resemble tank interiors,^[212] and space battles in the original film were based on

World War I and World War II dogfights.^[213]

Palpatine being a [chancellor](#) before becoming the [Emperor](#) in the prequel trilogy alludes to Hitler's role before appointing himself [Führer](#).^[210] Lucas has also drawn parallels to historical dictators such as [Julius Caesar](#), [Napoleon Bonaparte](#), and politicians like [Richard Nixon](#).^{[214][215][k]} The [Great Jedi Purge](#) mirrors the events of the [Night of the Long Knives](#).^[217] The corruption of the Galactic Republic is modeled after the fall of the democratic [Roman Republic](#) and the formation of [an empire](#).^{[218][219]}

On the inspiration for the [First Order](#) formed "from the ashes of the Empire", *The Force Awakens* director [J. J. Abrams](#) spoke of conversations the writers had about how the Nazis could have [escaped to Argentina](#) after WWII and "started working together again."^[90]

Cultural impact

Main article: [Cultural impact of Star Wars](#)

The *Star Wars* saga has had a significant impact on [popular culture](#),^[220] with references to its fictional universe deeply embedded in everyday life.^[221] Phrases like "evil empire" and "[May the Force be with you](#)" have become part of the popular lexicon.^[222] The first *Star Wars* film in 1977 was a cultural unifier,^[223] enjoyed by a wide spectrum of people.^[224] The film can be said to have helped launch the science-fiction boom of the late 1970s and early 1980s, making [science-fiction films](#) a mainstream genre.^[225] The widespread impact made it a prime target for parody works and homages, with popular examples including *Hardware Wars*, *Spaceballs*, *The Family Guy Trilogy* and *Robot Chicken: Star Wars*.

In 1989, the [Library of Congress](#) selected the original *Star Wars* film for preservation in the U.S. [National Film Registry](#), as being "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant."^[226] *The Empire Strikes Back*, was selected in 2010.^{[227][228]} 35mm reels of the 1997 Special Editions were the versions initially presented for preservation because of the difficulty of transferring from the original prints,^{[229][230]} but it was later revealed that the Library possesses a copyright deposit print of the original theatrical releases.^[231]

Industry



The [lightsaber](#) and the [blaster](#) are iconic elements of the franchise.

The original *Star Wars* film was a huge success for [20th Century Fox](#), and was credited for reinvigorating the company. Within three weeks of the film's release, the studio's stock price doubled to a record high. Prior to 1977, 20th Century Fox's greatest annual profits were \$37 million, while in 1977, the company broke that record by posting a profit of \$79 million.^[213] The franchise helped Fox to change from an almost bankrupt [production company](#) to a thriving media conglomerate.^[232]

Star Wars fundamentally changed the aesthetics and narratives of [Hollywood](#) films, switching the focus of Hollywood-made films from deep, meaningful stories based on dramatic conflict, themes and [irony](#) to sprawling special-effects-laden [blockbusters](#), as well as changing the Hollywood film industry in fundamental ways. Before *Star Wars*, special effects in films had not appreciably advanced since the 1950s.^[233] The commercial success of *Star Wars* created a boom in state-of-the-art special effects in the late 1970s.^[232] Along with *Jaws*, *Star Wars* started the tradition of the summer [blockbuster](#) film in the entertainment industry, where films open on many screens at the same time and profitable [franchises](#) are important.^{[234][224]} It created the model for the major film trilogy and showed that merchandising rights on a film could generate more money than the film itself did.^[223]

Film critic [Roger Ebert](#) wrote in his book *The Great Movies*, "Like *The Birth of a Nation* and *Citizen Kane*, *Star Wars* was a technical watershed that influenced many of the movies that came after." It began a new generation of special effects and high-energy motion pictures. The film was one of the first films to link genres together to invent a new, [high-concept](#) genre for filmmakers to build upon.^[235] Finally, along with [Steven Spielberg](#)'s *Jaws*, it shifted the film industry's focus away from personal filmmaking of the 1970s and towards fast-paced, big-budget [blockbusters](#) for younger audiences.^{[213][236][237]}

Some critics have blamed *Star Wars* and *Jaws* for "ruining" Hollywood by shifting its focus from "sophisticated" films such as *The Godfather*, *Taxi Driver*, and *Annie Hall* to films about spectacle and juvenile fantasy, and for the industry shift from stand-alone, one and done films, towards blockbuster franchises with multiple sequels and prequels.^[238] One such critic, [Peter Biskind](#), complained, "When all was said and done, Lucas and Spielberg returned the 1970s audience, grown sophisticated on a diet of European and [New Hollywood](#) films, to the simplicities of the pre-1960s [Golden Age of movies](#)... They marched backward through the looking-glass."^{[238][239]} In an opposing view, [Tom Shone](#) wrote that through *Star Wars* and *Jaws*, Lucas and Spielberg "didn't betray cinema at all: they plugged it back into the grid, returning the medium to its roots as a carnival sideshow, a magic act, one big special effect", which was "a kind of rebirth".^[237]

The original *Star Wars* trilogy is widely considered one of the best film trilogies in history.^[240] Numerous filmmakers have been influenced by *Star Wars*, including Damon Lindelof, Dean Devlin, Roland Emmerich, John Lasseter,^[241] David Fincher, Joss Whedon, John Singleton, Kevin Smith,^[235] and later *Star Wars* directors J. J. Abrams and Gareth Edwards.^[242] Lucas's concept of a "used universe" particularly influenced Ridley Scott's *Blade Runner* (1982) and *Alien* (1979), James Cameron's *Aliens* (1986) as well as *The Terminator* (1984), George Miller's *Mad Max 2* (1981), and Peter Jackson's *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy (2001–2003).^[235] Christopher Nolan cited *Star Wars* as an influence when making the 2010 blockbuster film *Inception*.^[243]

Main article: [Star Wars fan films](#)

The *Star Wars* saga has inspired many fans to create their own non-canon material set in the *Star Wars* galaxy. In recent years, this has ranged from writing [fan fiction](#) to creating [fan films](#). In 2002, Lucasfilm sponsored the first annual [Official Star Wars Fan Film Awards](#), officially recognizing filmmakers and the genre. Because of concerns over potential [copyright](#) and trademark issues, however, the contest was initially open only to [parodies](#), [mockumentaries](#), and documentaries. Fan fiction films set in the *Star Wars* universe were originally ineligible, but in 2007, Lucasfilm changed the submission standards to allow in-universe fiction entries.^[244] Lucasfilm has allowed but not endorsed the creation of fan fiction, as long as it does not attempt to make a profit.^[245]

Academia

As the characters and the storyline of the original trilogy are so well known, educators have used the films in the classroom as a learning resource. For example, a project in Western Australia honed elementary school students storytelling skills by role-playing action scenes from the movies and later creating props and audio/visual scenery to enhance their performance.^[246] Others have used the films to encourage second-level students to integrate technology in the science classroom by making prototype lightsabers.^[247] Similarly, psychiatrists in New Zealand and the US have advocated their use in the university classroom to explain different types of [psychopathology](#).^{[248][249]}

See also

- [501st Legion](#)
- [Architecture of *Star Wars*](#)
- [Comparison of Star Trek and Star Wars](#)
- [Jedi census phenomenon](#)
- [Jediism](#)

- [List of space science fiction franchises](#)
- [List of *Star Wars* characters](#)
- [List of *Star Wars* creatures](#)
- [List of *Star Wars* planets and moons](#)
- [Music of *Star Wars*](#)
- [Physics and *Star Wars*](#)
- [Star Wars Celebration](#)
- [Star Wars Day](#)
- [Star Wars documentaries](#)
- [Star Wars: The High Republic](#)
- [The Force](#)
- [The Story of *Star Wars*](#)
- [Technology in *Star Wars*](#)
- [Wookieepedia, the Star Wars Wiki](#)

Other Languages

- [Afrikaans](#)
- [Alemannisch](#)
- [አማርኛ](#)
- [العربية](#)
- [Aragonés](#)
- [Asturianu](#)
- [Azərbaycanca](#)
- [تۆرکجه](#)
- [Basa Bali](#)
- [বাংলা](#)
- [Bân-lâm-gú](#)
- [Беларуская](#)
- [Беларуская \(тарашкевіца\)](#)
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- [Boarisch](#)
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- [Cebuano](#)
- [Čeština](#)
- [Choctaw](#)
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- Dansk
- Deutsch
- Eesti
- Ελληνικά
- Emiliàn e rumagnòl
- Español
- Esperanto
- Euskara
- فارسی
- Fiji Hindi
- Føroyskt
- Français
- Frysk
- Gaeilge
- Gaelg
- Gàidhlig
- Galego
- Γαλλικά
- ગુજરાતી
- 客家語/Hak-kâ-ngî
- 한국어
- Հայերեն
- हिन्दी
- Hrvatski
- Ido
- Bahasa Indonesia
- Interlingua
- ᐃᓄᐃᑦ/inuktitut
- IsiXhosa
- Íslenska
- Italiano
- עברית
- Jawa
- ಕನ್ನಡ
- Kapampangan
- ქართული
- Қазақша
- Kernowek
- Kiswahili

- Kreyòl ayisyen
- Kurdî
- Кыргызча
- Latina
- Latviešu
- Lëtzebuergesch
- Lietuvių
- Ligure
- Lombard
- Magyar
- Македонски
- Malagasy
- മലയാളം
- मराठी
- Bahasa Melayu
- Minangkabau
- Монгол
- မြန်မာစာ
- Nederlands
- नेपाल भाषा
- 日本語
- Нохчийн
- Norsk bokmål
- Norsk nynorsk
- Occitan
- O‘zbekcha/ўзбекча
- ਪੰਜਾਬੀ
- Pangasinan
- پنجابی
- Picard
- Polski
- Português
- Română
- Runa Simi
- Русский
- Саха тыла
- سرائیکی
- Sardu
- Scots

- Shqip
- Sicilianu
- සිංහල
- Simple English
- Slovenčina
- Slovenščina
- Ślůnski
- Soomaaliga
- کوردی
- Српски / srpski
- Srpskohrvatski / српскохрватски
- Sunda
- Suomi
- Svenska
- Tagalog
- தமிழ்
- Taqbaylit
- Татарча/tatarça
- ไทย
- Тоҷикӣ
- Türkçe
- Thuəŋjăŋ
- Українська
- اردو
- Vepsän kel’
- Tiếng Việt
- Volapük
- Walon
- 文言
- Winaray
- 吴语
- ཡིད་ལྡན་
- 粵語
- Zazaki
- 中文

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