

# FilmShare User Guide

Welcome to **FilmShare** - Your personal cinema companion for discovering, sharing, and tracking movies with friends!

**⚠️ IMPORTANT: Please do NOT use your original/personal email ID for registration. Create a new temporary email ID specifically for this app to protect your privacy and security.**

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## Download the App

FilmShare works best as an installed app on your device!

### Installation Steps:

#### On Mobile (iPhone/Android):

1. Open FilmShare in your mobile browser (Safari for iPhone, Chrome for Android)
2. Visit: [www.filmshare.in](http://www.filmshare.in)
3. **iPhone (Safari):**
  - o Tap the Share button (square with arrow)
  - o Scroll down and tap "Add to Home Screen"
  - o Tap "Add" in the top right
4. **Android (Chrome):**
  - o Tap the three-dot menu
  - o Select "Add to Home Screen" or "Install App"
  - o Tap "Add" or "Install"

#### On Desktop (Chrome/Edge):

1. Open FilmShare in Chrome or Edge browser
2. Look for the install icon (⊕) in the address bar
3. Click "Install" when prompted
4. Or: Click the three-dot menu → "Install FilmShare"

### Benefits of Installing:

-  App icon on your home screen
  -  Faster loading and offline support
  -  Full-screen experience without browser UI
  -  Better notification support
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# Getting Started

## Creating Your Account

1. Visit the FilmShare website
2. Click **Sign Up**
3. Enter your details:
  - o Name
  - o Email
  - o Password
4. Click **Create Account**

## Logging In

1. Enter your email and password
  2. Click **Login**
  3. You'll be automatically redirected to the Add Movie page
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## 1. Add Movie

Send movie recommendations to your friends!

### How to Use:

1. Click the  **Plus Button** to open the form
2. **Search for a Movie:**
  - o Type the movie name in the search box
  - o Autocomplete suggestions will appear as you type
  - o Click on a movie to select it
3. **Select Friends:**
  - o Check the boxes next to friends you want to send the movie to
  - o You can select multiple friends at once
  - o The counter shows how many friends you've selected
4. **Preview:**
  - o See the movie poster before sending
5. Click **Submit**

### Special Features:

- **Already Watched Warning:** If a friend has already watched the movie through Discover, you'll get a popup
    - o **Cancel:** Don't send the movie
    - o **Still Send:** Override and send it anyway
  - **Bulk Sending:** Send to multiple friends simultaneously
  - If sending to multiple friends and one has watched it, you can choose to continue with the remaining friends
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## 2. My Movies

Your personal movie list from friends!

## What You'll See:

- All movies your friends have sent you
- Movie poster
- Movie title and year
- Who sent it
- Date added

## Actions:

### 1. Watched Button (Gold):

- Click when you've watched the movie
- Adds to your watched history
- Removes from your current list
- Helps improve Discover recommendations

### 2. Delete Button:

- Permanently remove from your list
- Use this if you're not interested

## Features:

- **Fixed Card Layout:** All movie cards are the same size for a clean look
  - **Sorted by Date:** Newest recommendations appear first
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## 3. Discover

**Swipe through movies and build your watchlist!**

### Two Modes:

#### Browse Mode (Default)

Find movies based on your preferences:

##### 1. Set Your Filters:

- **Genres:** Select multiple from dropdown (Action, Comedy, Drama, etc.)
- **Platform:** Choose streaming service (Netflix, Prime, Disney+, etc.)
- **Language:** Select from English, Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, and more
- Click **Find Movies** to apply filters

##### 2. Search Similar Movies:

- Type a movie name in the "Search a movie" box
- Select from autocomplete suggestions
- Click **Find Similar** to get recommendations
- Click **Back to Browse** to return to normal mode

##### 3. Swipe Through Movies:

- **Swipe Left** or click **Watched**: Mark as watched
- **Swipe Right** or click **Nah**: Skip this movie
- **Tap Card** or click **Want to Watch**: Add to watchlist

- o **Back Button:** Go back to previous card

#### 4. Smart Features:

- o Fresh movies load every time you visit
- o Recommendations based on your watched history
- o Movies you've watched appear in similarity searches
- o 30% recommendations, 70% filtered content

### Watchlist Mode

**View and manage your saved movies:**

#### 1. Click **Watchlist** tab

#### 2. Filter Your List:

- o By Genres (click chips to toggle)
- o By Platform
- o By Language

#### 3. View Cards:

- o See all movies you've marked "Want to Watch"
- o Click **Remove** to delete from watchlist

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## 4. Movie Party

**Host or join shared movie viewing sessions!**

### Creating a Party:

#### 1. Click the **Plus Button**

#### 2. Fill in Details:

- o **Movie:** Search and select from TMDB
- o **Date:** Pick when you're watching
- o **Time:** Set the start time
- o **Location:** Where you're meeting (or "Online")

#### 3. Invite Friends:

- o Select friends from the dropdown
- o Add multiple friends

#### 4. Click **Create Party**

### Your Parties:

- **Upcoming Events:** See all scheduled parties
- **Party Details:**
  - o Movie poster and title
  - o Date and time
  - o Location
  - o List of invited friends
- **Delete Party:** Remove if plans change

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## 5. Friends

**Build your movie buddy network!**

## Finding Friends:

1. **Search by Username:**
  - Type in the search box
  - Results appear instantly
2. Click **Add Friend** next to any user

## Managing Friends:

- See all your current friends
- **Remove Friend:** Click the button to unfriend
- Friends appear in:
  - Add Movie recipient list
  - Movie Party invites
  - Your social network

## Friend Requests:

- Accept or decline incoming requests
  - See who wants to connect with you
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## 6. Notifications

Stay updated on your movie activity!

### What You'll See:

- Friend requests
- New movies added to your list
- Movie party invitations
- Friend activity updates

### Managing Notifications:

- View all in chronological order
  - Most recent at the top
  - Quickly see what's new in your FilmShare world
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## 7. Profile

Your personal movie space!

### View Your Stats:

- Total movies watched
- Movies in your list
- Active friendships
- Movie parties attended

### Update Your Profile:

1. Click on your avatar in the sidebar
2. Edit:
  - Profile picture
  - Display name

- Email
- Password

### 3. Save Changes

#### View Other Profiles:

- Click on friend names throughout the app
- See their:
  - Display name
  - Join date
  - Movie stats
  - Shared interests

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## Tips & Tricks

#### Discover Section:

- **Mark movies as "Watched"** to get better recommendations
- **Use the Similar Movies search** to find films like your favorites
- **Mix filters** for unique discoveries (e.g., Hindi + Thriller on Netflix)
- **Check your Watchlist** regularly and add to My Movies by asking friends

#### Social Features:

- **Send movies to multiple friends** at once to save time
- **Override "Already Watched" warnings** if you think they'd enjoy a rewatch
- **Create Movie Parties** for group viewings
- **Use the Back button** in Discover if you accidentally swiped

#### Organization:

- **Use the Watched button** in My Movies to keep your list clean
- **Filter your Watchlist** to find specific types of movies
- **Check Notifications** regularly to stay connected
- **Sort by date** to prioritize recent recommendations

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## Theme & Design

FilmShare features a **Gold & Black Cinema Theme**:

- **Primary Color:** Gold (#d6b56f) - Represents classic cinema elegance
- **Background:** Dark tones for comfortable viewing
- **Accent:** Warm gold highlights for important actions
- **Typography:** Space Grotesk for modern readability

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## Need Help?

#### Common Issues:

##### Movies not loading?

- Check your internet connection
- Try refreshing the page

- Clear filters and try again

#### Can't find a friend?

- Make sure their username is exact
- They must have an account
- Check spelling

#### Discover showing same movies?

- The page now auto-refreshes on each visit
- Try changing your filters
- Use the Similar Movies search for variety

#### Movie Party not saving?

- Ensure all fields are filled
- Check date is in the future
- At least one friend must be selected

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## Quick Start Checklist

- Create your account
- Add at least 3 friends
- Send your first movie recommendation
- Mark a movie as watched
- Try Discover and swipe through 10 movies
- Add 5 movies to your Watchlist
- Create your first Movie Party
- Update your profile picture

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## Best Practices

1. **Daily:** Check notifications and new movies in your list
2. **Weekly:** Browse Discover for 10-15 minutes
3. **Monthly:** Review and clean your Watchlist
4. **Regularly:** Send recommendations to friends
5. **Often:** Mark movies as watched for better recommendations

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Enjoy your FilmShare experience! 🍿

*Last Updated: February 2026*