

= X @-@ Men ( film series ) =

The X @-@ Men film series is an American series of superhero films based on the fictional superhero team of the same name , who originally appeared in a series of comic books created by Stan Lee and Jack Kirby and published by Marvel Comics . 20th Century Fox obtained the film rights to the characters in 1994 , and after numerous drafts , Bryan Singer was hired to direct X @-@ Men ( 2000 ) and its sequel , X2 ( 2003 ) , while Brett Ratner directed X @-@ Men : The Last Stand ( 2006 ) .

After each film earned higher box @-@ office grosses than its predecessor , several spin @-@ off films were released , X @-@ Men Origins : Wolverine ( 2009 ) , X @-@ Men : First Class ( 2011 ) and The Wolverine ( 2013 ) . X @-@ Men : Days of Future Past , a sequel to both X @-@ Men : The Last Stand and X @-@ Men : First Class , was released in 2014 . Deadpool and X @-@ Men : Apocalypse followed in 2016 .

X @-@ Men , X2 , X @-@ Men : First Class , X @-@ Men : Days of Future Past and the spin @-@ offs The Wolverine and Deadpool were all met with positive reviews , with X @-@ Men : Days of Future Past as the best @-@ received film in the series . In the cases of X @-@ Men and X2 , critics especially highlighted their dark , realistic tones and subtexts dealing with discrimination and intolerance , while Deadpool was highlighted for its " faithful " interpretation of the source material and for its R rating . X @-@ Men : The Last Stand , X @-@ Men Origins : Wolverine and X @-@ Men : Apocalypse were met with mixed reviews from critics .

With nine films released , the X @-@ Men film series is the seventh highest @-@ grossing film franchise of all @-@ time , having grossed over US \$ 4 @. @ 3 billion worldwide . It is set to continue with the release of a third Wolverine film in 2017 .

= = Films = =

= = = X @-@ Men ( 2000 ) = = =

The film introduces Wolverine and Rogue into the conflict between Professor Xavier 's X @-@ Men , and the Brotherhood of Mutants , led by Magneto . Magneto intends to mutate world leaders at a United Nations summit with a machine he has built , to bring about acceptance of mutantkind , but Xavier realizes this forced mutation will only result in their deaths .

In 1994 , 20th Century Fox and producer Lauren Shuler Donner bought the film rights to the X @-@ Men . Andrew Kevin Walker was hired to write and James Cameron expressed interest in directing . Eventually , Bryan Singer signed on to direct in July 1996 . Although he was not a comic book fan , Singer was fascinated by the analogies of prejudice and discrimination that X @-@ Men offered . John Logan , Joss Whedon , Ed Solomon , Christopher McQuarrie and David Hayter wrote the script , with Hayter receiving sole credit . Principal photography began in September 1999 in Toronto , Canada and ended in March 2000 . The film was released on July 14 , 2000 .

= = = X2 ( 2003 ) = = =

In the film , Colonel William Stryker brainwashes and questions the imprisoned Magneto about Professor Xavier 's mutant @-@ locating machine , Cerebro . Stryker attacks the X @-@ Mansion , and brainwashes Xavier into locating every mutant on the planet to kill them . The X @-@ Men must team up with the Brotherhood to prevent Stryker 's worldwide genocide .

Hayter and Zak Penn were hired to write their own scripts for the sequel which Singer would pick , with an aim to release the film in December 2002 . Michael Dougherty and Dan Harris were hired to re @-@ write the script in February 2002 , writing around 26 drafts and 150 on set . Principal photography began in June 2002 in Vancouver , Canada and ended in November 2002 . The film was released on May 2 , 2003 .

=== X @-@ Men : The Last Stand ( 2006 ) ===

In the film , a pharmaceutical company has developed a suppressor of the mutant gene , provoking controversy in the mutant community . Magneto declares war on the humans and retrieves his own weapon : Phoenix , who is the resurrected former X @-@ Man , Jean Grey . A final battle between the X @-@ Men ( now led by Storm ) and the Brotherhood ensues , and Wolverine must accept that in order to stop Grey , he will have to kill her .

Singer initially intended to shoot the film back @-@ to @-@ back with a fourth film , though he left in 2004 to direct Superman Returns . Penn and Simon Kinberg were hired the following month . Whedon 's Astonishing X @-@ Men story " Gifted " , featuring a mutant cure was suggested for the primary story . Matthew Vaughn came on board as director in February 2005 , but left due to the rushed production schedule . Brett Ratner was later hired as director in June . Principal photography began in August 2005 in Vancouver , Canada and ended in January 2006 . The film was released on May 26 , 2006 .

=== X @-@ Men Origins : Wolverine ( 2009 ) ===

The film is a prequel and a spin @-@ off focusing on the character Wolverine and his relationship with his half @-@ brother Victor Creed , as well his time with Stryker 's Team X , before and shortly after his skeleton was bonded with the indestructible metal adamantium .

David Benioff was hired to write the screenplay for the spin @-@ off film Wolverine in October 2004 . Hugh Jackman became producer as well as star , and worked with Benioff on the script . Ratner was negotiated by the studio to take the helm of Wolverine after directing X @-@ Men : The Last Stand , but no agreement was made . In July 2007 , Gavin Hood was hired as director . Principal photography began in January 2008 in Queenstown , New Zealand and ended in May . The film was released on May 1 , 2009 .

=== X @-@ Men : First Class ( 2011 ) ===

The film is a prequel set primarily in 1962 during the Cuban Missile Crisis , and focuses on the relationship between Charles Xavier and Erik Lehnsherr , and the origin of their groups ? the X @-@ Men and the Brotherhood , respectively .

Producer Lauren Shuler Donner first thought of a prequel based on the young X @-@ Men during the production of X2 , and later producer Kinberg suggested to 20th Century Fox an adaptation of the comic @-@ book series X @-@ Men : First Class . Singer signed on to direct the film in December 2009 , however , in March 2010 it was announced that Singer would be producing instead of directing . Vaughn , who was previously attached to direct X @-@ Men : The Last Stand , became the director , and co @-@ wrote the final script with his writing partner Jane Goldman . The film superseded a planned X @-@ Men Origins : Magneto , and the Writer 's Guild of America arbitration still credited Magneto writer Sheldon Turner for the film 's story . Principal photography began in August 2010 in London , England and ended in December . The film was released on June 3 , 2011 .

=== The Wolverine ( 2013 ) ===

Set after the events of X @-@ Men : The Last Stand , the film features Wolverine heading to Japan for a reunion with a soldier named Ichir? Yashida whose life he saved years before . Wolverine must defend the man 's granddaughter Mariko Yashida from all manner of ninja and Yakuza assassins .

Christopher McQuarrie , who went uncredited for his work on X @-@ Men , was hired to write the screenplay for the second Wolverine film in August 2009 . Darren Aronofsky was chosen to direct the film , though bowed out , stating the project would keep him out of the country for too long . James Mangold was later chosen to direct the film . Mark Bomback was then hired to rewrite McQuarrie 's script . Principal photography began in August 2012 in Sydney , Australia and ended in

November . The film was released on July 26 , 2013 .

== X @-@ Men : Days of Future Past ( 2014 ) ==

Set years after the events of The Wolverine , the film features the cast of the original X @-@ Men trilogy and X @-@ Men : First Class . The story , inspired by Chris Claremont and John Byrne 's X @-@ Men comic book storyline " Days of Future Past " , features Wolverine going back in time to 1973 to prevent an assassination that , if carried out , will lead to the creation of a new weapons system called the Sentinels that threatens the existence of mutants ? and potentially , all of humanity .

Matthew Vaughn was attached to direct the film , but left in October 2012 to focus on the film Kingsman : The Secret Service . Singer , who directed the first two X @-@ Men films and produced X @-@ Men : First Class , replaced Vaughn as the director of the film . The screenplay was written by Kinberg . Principal photography began in April 2013 in Montreal , Canada and ended in August . The film was released on May 23 , 2014 .

== Deadpool ( 2016 ) ==

In the film , former Special Forces operative Wade Wilson is subjected to an experiment that leaves him with new abilities . He adopts the alter ego Deadpool to hunt down the man who nearly destroyed his life .

In May 2000 , Marvel Studios attempted to produce a Deadpool film as part of a distribution deal with Artisan Entertainment . However , by 2004 , Marvel was developing the film with New Line Cinema . David S. Goyer was set to write and direct and courted actor Ryan Reynolds for the lead role , but lost interest within months in favor of other projects . 20th Century Fox acquired Deadpool the following year after New Line placed it in turnaround , and was considering the spin @-@ off in the development of X @-@ Men Origins : Wolverine , with Reynolds being cast for the role . After the opening weekend success of X @-@ Men Origins : Wolverine in May 2009 , Fox lent Deadpool out to writers with Donner acting as a producer . Rhett Reese and Paul Wernick were hired to write the script in January 2010 . Robert Rodriguez was sent a draft of the screenplay the following June , but did not pursue it , and Adam Berg emerged as a top contender to direct . In April 2011 , visual effects specialist Tim Miller was hired to direct . Principal photography began in March 2015 in Vancouver , Canada and ended in May . The film was released on February 12 , 2016 .

== X @-@ Men : Apocalypse ( 2016 ) ==

In the film , En Sabah Nur , the first and most powerful mutant awakens after thousands of years . He is disillusioned with the world as he finds it and recruits a team of powerful mutants to cleanse mankind and create a new world order , over which he will reign . As the fate of the Earth hangs in the balance , Raven , with the help of Professor X , must lead the X @-@ Men to stop their nemesis and save mankind from destruction .

In December 2013 , Singer announced the upcoming X @-@ Men film , titled X @-@ Men : Apocalypse , a sequel to X @-@ Men : Days of Future Past . Directed by Singer from a script by Simon Kinberg , Dan Harris , and Michael Dougherty , the film is said to focus on the origin of the mutants . Kinberg said that it will take place in 1983 and will complete a trilogy that began with X @-@ Men : First Class . Principal photography began in April 2015 in Montreal , Canada and ended in August . The film was released on May 27 , 2016 in North America .

== Future ==

== Untitled Wolverine film ( 2017 ) ==

By November 2013 , 20th Century Fox had begun negotiations for the treatment for another solo film starring Wolverine with director James Mangold while Donner is attached to produce . Mangold has said that it will be inspired by other Wolverine stories from the comic books and it will be made after X @-@ Men : Apocalypse . In March 2014 , David James Kelly was hired to write the script . In April 2015 , Michael Green was hired to work on the film 's script . The film will star Hugh Jackman in his final performance as Wolverine along with Patrick Stewart as Charles Xavier / Professor X , Boyd Holbrook , Stephen Merchant , Richard E. Grant , Eriq La Salle and Elise Neal . Jackman hinted at the film being an adaptation of the Old Man Logan storyline , a status confirmed by said comic 's writer , Mark Millar . In February 2016 , Liev Schreiber was in talks to return as Victor Creed / Sabretooth , whom he played in X @-@ Men Origins : Wolverine . Principal photography commenced in May 2016 for a March 3 , 2017 release .

= = = = In development = = = =

In October 2014 , Josh Zetumer was hired to write the screenplay for a film about the character Remy LeBeau / Gambit based on the treatment by comic @-@ book writer Chris Claremont . In June 2015 , Rupert Wyatt was hired to direct but left in September due to schedule conflicts . In November , Doug Liman was in final negotiations to direct the film . The film will star Channing Tatum in the lead role . Donner , Kinberg , Tatum and Reid Carolin are attached as producers . Kinberg said that he hopes to start filming in spring 2016 . Principal photography is scheduled to commence in late 2016 , while filming is reported to start at the beginning of Spring 2017 .

In September 2015 , Kinberg said that a sequel for Deadpool was in development . By the release of Deadpool , 20th Century Fox had already greenlit the sequel , with Rheese and Wernick returning to write , and Miller being looked at to return as director . According to an Easter Egg at the end of the largely tongue in cheek first film , the character Nathan Summers / Cable will appear in the film .

In May 2015 , Josh Boone was hired to direct and write a film adaptation of The New Mutants comic @-@ book series . Acting as a spin @-@ off to the X @-@ Men films , the film will be written by Boone and Knate Gwaltney , while Donner and Kinberg are attached to produce . In May 2016 , Boone confirmed the characters that will appear in the film such as Ilyana Rasputin / Magik , Rahne Sinclair / Wolfsbane , Danielle " Dani " Moonstar / Mirage , Samuel " Sam " Guthrie / Cannonball , Roberto da Costa / Sunspot , and Warlock . Kinberg has stated that the film will be very loyal to the comics . Professor X is confirmed to make an appearance in the film , while filming potentially begins in early 2017 .

In May 2016 , Kinberg said the next X @-@ Men film will be set in the 1990s . In May 2016 , screenwriter Simon Kinberg acknowledged the possibility of re @-@ adapting " The Dark Phoenix Saga " , which had been adapted in the original X @-@ Men trilogy films .

In July 2013 , 20th Century Fox hired Jeff Wadlow to write a film adaptation of the X @-@ Men spin @-@ off comic @-@ book series X @-@ Force , with Donner attached to produce . Mark Millar , the creative consultant for 20th Century Fox 's Marvel Comics based films , stated that the film will feature five characters as protagonists . After the release of Deadpool , Reynolds felt that Deadpool would soon be in an X @-@ Force film , while Kinberg stated that there was potential for X @-@ Force to be R @-@ rated like Deadpool . Kinberg has since reportedly been working on another draft of the script .

= = Recurring characters = =

List indicator ( s )

This table only shows characters that have appeared in three or more films in the series .

A dark grey cell indicates that the character was not in the film or that the character 's presence in the film has yet to be announced .

A Y indicates a role as a younger version of the character .

An O indicates a role as an older version of the character .

A U indicates an uncredited role .

A C indicates a cameo role .

A V indicates a voice @-@ only role .

An A indicates an appearance through archival footage or stills .

= = Crew = =

= = Home media release = =

20th Century Fox Home Entertainment released the first seven films on DVD , Blu @-@ ray and digital download . The first two films were also released on VHS . The films were also released on VHS , DVD and Blu @-@ ray box sets :

As of May 2014 , the DVD and Blu @-@ ray sales of the first six films in the United States earned more than \$ 620 million .

= = Reception = =

= = = Box office performance = = =

The first three X @-@ Men films and Deadpool set opening records in North America : X @-@ Men had the highest July opening yet , while X2 and X @-@ Men : The Last Stand earned the fourth highest opening weekends yet and Deadpool got the largest opening weekend in February . The records for the first three films have since been surpassed . The next three X @-@ Men films after X @-@ Men : The Last Stand opened lower than their predecessor and didn 't set opening records . In North America , Deadpool is the highest @-@ grossing film in the series , and it also has the highest opening weekend . Outside North America , X @-@ Men : Days of Future Past has the highest opening weekend and is the highest @-@ grossing film in the series . Worldwide , Deadpool is the highest grossing film in the series .

The X @-@ Men film series is the second highest @-@ grossing film series based on Marvel Comics characters after Marvel Cinematic Universe . In North America , it is the seventh highest @-@ grossing film franchise , having earned over \$ 1 @. @ 8 billion . Worldwide , it is the seventh highest @-@ grossing film franchise of all time , having grossed over \$ 4 @. @ 3 billion .

= = = Critical and public response = = =

Wesley Morris of The Boston Globe praised the first three X @-@ Men films as " more than a cash @-@ guzzling wham @-@ bang Hollywood franchise ... these three movies sport philosophy , ideas , a telethon @-@ load of causes , and a highly elastic us @-@ versus @-@ them allegory . " Morris praised X @-@ Men : The Last Stand for " put [ ting ] the heroes of a mighty summer blockbuster in a rare mortal position . Realism at this time of year ? How unorthodox ! " Roger Ebert gave the films mostly positive reviews , but criticized them for the amount of mutants , stating " their powers are so various and ill @-@ matched that it 's hard to keep them all on the same canvas . "

The first two films were highly praised due to their cerebral tone . However , when director Bryan Singer left the series , many criticized his successor , Brett Ratner . Colin Colvert of the Star Tribune felt " Singer 's sensitivity to [ the discrimination themes ] made the first two X @-@ Men films surprisingly resonant and soulful for comic @-@ based summer extravaganzas ... Singer is adept at juggling large casts of three @-@ dimensional characters , Ratner makes shallow , unimaginative bang @-@ ups . " James Berardinelli felt , " X @-@ Men : The Last Stand isn 't as taut or satisfying as X @-@ Men 2 , but it 's better constructed and better paced than the original X @-@ Men . The differences in quality between the three are minor , however ; despite the change in directors , there seems to be a single vision . " David Denby of The New Yorker praised " the liquid beauty and the poetic fantasy of Singer 's work " , but called Ratner 's film " a crude synthesizer of comedy and

action tropes . " Singer 's third film in the series , X @-@ Men : Days of Future Past was also highly praised . Alonso Duralde of The Wrap felt that " Singer keeps things moving along briskly enough that you can just go along with the ride of Superhero Stuff without getting bogged down " .

The X @-@ Men films were well @-@ received by fans of the comic books , but there was criticism of the large cast , and the limited screentime for all of them . Richard George of IGN praised the depictions of Wolverine , Professor X , Magneto , Jean Grey , Storm , William Stryker , Mystique , Beast and Nightcrawler ; however , George thought many of the younger X @-@ Men characters , such as Rogue , Iceman , Pyro and Kitty Pryde were " adjectiveless teenager [ s ] " , and was disappointed by Cyclops ' characterization . He observed the filmmakers were " big fans of silent henchmen " , due to the small roles of the various villainous mutants ; such as Lady Deathstrike . Spider @-@ Man director Sam Raimi said he was a fan of the series , particularly Singer 's films . Film historian Kim Newman also tonally compared Batman Begins to Singer 's films .

= = = Impact = = =

Richard George of IGN stated that the success of the first X @-@ Men film paved the way for comic @-@ book film adaptations such as the Spider @-@ Man series , Fantastic Four , V for Vendetta and Singer 's Superman Returns . Chris Hewitt of Empire magazine called the first X @-@ Men film as the " catalyst " for films based on Marvel Comics characters stating " Singer ? s 2000 movie is the catalyst for everything that ? s come since , good and bad . Without it , there ? s no Marvel Studios . " Comic @-@ book writer Mark Millar said that Singer 's X @-@ Men " revolutionized " superhero films .

= = Tie @-@ in material = =

= = = Books = = =

In June 2000 , Marvel Comics published a comic book prequel to the first film , titled X @-@ Men : Beginnings , featuring the back @-@ stories of Magneto , Rogue and Wolverine . A novel adaptation for the film was also released . In 2003 , Marvel released a comic @-@ book for X2 , which contained prequels detailing Nightcrawler 's backstory and Wolverine 's time searching for Alkali Lake . Del Rey Books also published novelizations for the first three films ; the latter two were written by Chris Claremont .

= = = Video games = = =

In July 2000 , X @-@ Men : Mutant Academy was released for PlayStation and Game Boy Color . It shared the title fonts and costumes from the first film . The game also contains behind @-@ the @-@ scenes material from the first film . In April 2003 , X2 : Wolverine 's Revenge which served as a tie @-@ in to X2 was released for GameCube , Game Boy Advance , Microsoft Windows , PlayStation 2 and Xbox . Patrick Stewart served as the voice actor for Professor X. In May 2006 , X @-@ Men : The Official Game was released for GameCube , Game Boy Advance , Microsoft Windows , Nintendo DS , PlayStation 2 , Xbox and Xbox 360 . The story was set between X2 and X @-@ Men : The Last Stand and also explained Nightcrawler 's departure from the X @-@ Men . In May 2009 , the video game X @-@ Men Origins : Wolverine based on the film of the same name was released for Microsoft Windows , Nintendo DS , PlayStation 2 , PlayStation 3 , PlayStation Portable , Wii and Xbox 360 . In September 2011 X @-@ Men : Destiny was released for consoles to coincide with the X @-@ Men : First Class 's home @-@ media release , containing costumes from the latter as unlockable content . All video games were released by Activision .

= = = Television series = = =

In October 2015 , Marvel Television announced that two television series based on X @-@ Men characters , Legion and Hellfire are in development .

Legion , based on the character David Haller , was ordered by FX for a pilot . Noah Hawley was attached to write the pilot . Produced by FX Productions and Marvel Television . Hawley will also serve as an executive producer along with Lauren Shuler Donner , Bryan Singer , Simon Kinberg , Jeph Loeb , Jim Chory and John Cameron . It is set to air in 2017 for an eight @-@ episode season .

Hellfire meanwhile was in development with Fox Broadcasting Company and was to be produced by 20th Century Fox Television and Marvel Television . Set in the late 1960s , the show was supposed to follow an agent who learns that a power @-@ hungry woman with " extraordinary " abilities is working with a clandestine society of millionaires , known as the Hellfire Club to take over the world . Evan Katz , Manny Coto , Patrick McKay and JD Payne were to be credited as the co @-@ creators of the show while McKay and Payne were hired to write the pilot , based on a story by Katz , Coto , McKay and Payne . Katz and Coto were also hired to act as showrunners but left along with McKay and Payne in January 2016 to focus on 24 : Legacy . Singer , Donner , Kinberg , Loeb and Chory were also attached as executive producers for the show . It was scrapped in July 2016 .