

= Jason Voorhees =

Jason Voorhees is a fictional character from the Friday the 13th series . He first appeared in Friday the 13th (1980) as the young son of camp cook @-@ turned @-@ murderer , Mrs. Voorhees , in which he was portrayed by Ari Lehman . Created by Victor Miller , with contributions by Ron Kurz , Sean S. Cunningham , and Tom Savini , Jason was not originally intended to carry the series as the main antagonist . The character has subsequently been represented in various other media , including novels , video games , comic books , and a cross @-@ over film with another iconic horror film character , Freddy Krueger .

The character has primarily been an antagonist in the films , whether by stalking and killing the other characters , or acting as a psychological threat to the protagonist , as is the case in Friday the 13th : A New Beginning . Since Lehman 's portrayal , the character has been represented by numerous actors and stuntmen , sometimes by more than one at a time ; this has caused some controversy as to who should receive credit for the portrayal . Kane Hodder is the best known of the stuntmen to portray Jason Voorhees , having played the character in four consecutive films .

The character 's physical appearance has gone through many transformations , with various special makeup effects artists making their mark on the character 's design , including makeup artist Stan Winston . Tom Savini 's initial design has been the basis for many of the later incarnations . The trademark hockey goalie mask did not appear until Friday the 13th Part III . Since Friday the 13th Part VI : Jason Lives , filmmakers have given Jason superhuman strength , regenerative powers , and near invulnerability . He has been seen as a sympathetic character , whose motivation for killing has been cited as being driven by the immoral actions of his victims and his own rage over having drowned as a child . Jason Voorhees has been featured in various humor magazines , referenced in feature films , parodied in television shows , and was the inspiration for a horror punk band . Several toy lines have been released based on various versions of the character from the Friday the 13th films . Jason Voorhees 's hockey mask is a widely recognized image in popular culture .

= = Appearances = =

Jason Voorhees first appears during a nightmare of the main character Alice (Adrienne King) in the original Friday the 13th film ; he becomes the main antagonist of the series in its sequels . As well as the films , there have been books and comics that have either expanded the universe of Jason , or been based on a minor aspect of him .

= = = Films = = =

Jason made his first cinematic appearance in the original Friday the 13th on May 9 , 1980 . In this film , 10 @-@ year @-@ old Jason is portrayed in the memories of his mother , Mrs. Voorhees (Betsy Palmer) , and as a hallucination of the film 's protagonist , Alice . Though the character makes no contemporary appearance onscreen , he propels the film 's plot ? Mrs. Voorhees , the cook at Camp Crystal Lake , seeks revenge for his death , which she blames on the camp counselors . Jason 's second appearance was in the sequel , Friday the 13th Part 2 (1981) . Revealed to be alive , an adult Jason exacts revenge on Alice for decapitating his mother in the original film . Jason (Warrington Gillette) , returns to Crystal Lake , living there as a hermit and guarding it from all intruders . Five years later a group of teenagers arrive to set up a new camp , only to be murdered one by one by Jason , who wears a pillow case over his head to hide his face . Ginny (Amy Steel) , the lone survivor , finds a cabin in the woods with a shrine built around the severed head of Mrs. Voorhees , and surrounded by mutilated corpses . Ginny fights back and slams a machete through Jason 's shoulder . Jason is left for dead as Ginny is taken away in an ambulance . In Friday the 13th Part III (1982) , Jason (Richard Brooker) escapes to a nearby lake resort , Higgins Haven , to rest from his wounds . At the same time , Chris Higgins (Dana Kimmell) returns to the property with some friends . An unmasked and reclusive Jason kills anyone who wanders into the barn where he is hiding . Taking a hockey mask from a victim to hide his face , he

leaves the barn to kill the rest of the group . Chris fends off Jason by slamming an axe into his head , but the night 's events drive her into hysteria as the police take her away .

Friday the 13th : The Final Chapter (1984) continues the story , with a presumed @-@ dead Jason (Ted White) found by the police and taken to the morgue . Jason awakens at the morgue and kills an attendant and a nurse , and makes his way back to Crystal Lake . A group of teens renting a house there fall victim to Jason 's rampage . Jason then seeks out Trish (Kimberly Beck) and Tommy Jarvis (Corey Feldman) next door . While Trish distracts Jason , Tommy evidently kills him with his own machete . Friday the 13th : A New Beginning follows Tommy Jarvis (John Shepherd) , who was committed to a mental hospital after the events of The Final Chapter , and has grown up constantly afraid that Jason (Tom Morgia) will return . Jason 's body was supposedly cremated after Tommy killed him . Roy Burns (Dick Wiede) uses Jason 's persona to become a copycat killer at the halfway home to which Tommy was moved . Jason appears in the film only through Tommy 's dreams and hallucinations . In Friday the 13th Part VI : Jason Lives (1986) , Tommy (Thom Mathews) , who has run away from a mental institution , visits Jason 's grave and learns that Jason 's body was never actually cremated , but buried in a cemetery near Crystal Lake . While attempting to destroy his body , Tommy inadvertently resurrects Jason (C. J. Graham) via a piece of cemetery fence that acts as a lightning rod . Now possessing superhuman abilities , Jason returns to Crystal Lake , now renamed Forest Green , and begins his killing spree anew . Tommy eventually lures Jason back to the lake where he drowned as a child and chains him to a boulder on the lake floor , leaving him for dead .

Friday the 13th Part VII : The New Blood (1988) begins an undisclosed amount of time after Jason Lives . Jason (Kane Hodder) is freed from his chains by the telekinetic Tina Shepard (Lar Park Lincoln) , who was attempting to resurrect her father . Jason begins killing those who occupy Crystal Lake , and after a battle with Tina , is dragged back to the bottom of the lake by an apparition of Tina 's father . Friday the 13th Part VIII : Jason Takes Manhattan (1989) sees Jason return from the grave , brought back to life via an underwater electrical cable . He follows a group of students on their senior class trip to Manhattan , boarding the Lazarus to wreak havoc . Upon reaching Manhattan , Jason kills all the survivors but Rennie (Jensen Daggett) and Sean (Scott Reeves) ; he chases them into the sewers , where he is transformed into a child by toxic waste . Jason Goes to Hell : The Final Friday (1993) marked the second time Jason was officially killed according to studio canon . Through an unexplained resurrection , he returns to Crystal Lake , where he is hunted by the FBI . The FBI sets up a sting to kill Jason , which proves successful . Through mystical possession , however , Jason survives by passing his demon @-@ infested heart from one being to the next . Though Jason does not physically appear throughout most of the film , it is learned he has a half @-@ sister and a niece , and that he needs them to retrieve and reinhabit his body . After resurrecting it , Jason is stabbed by his niece Jessica Kimble (Kari Keegan) and dragged into Hell .

Jason X (2002) marked Kane Hodder 's last performance as Jason . The film starts off in 2010 ; Jason has returned after an unexplained resurrection . Captured by the U.S. government in 2008 , Jason is being experimented upon in a research facility , where it has been determined that he has regenerative capabilities and that cryonic suspension is the only possible solution to stop him , since numerous attempts to execute him have proved unsuccessful . Jason escapes , killing all but one of his captors , and slices through the cryo @-@ chamber , spilling cryonics fluid into the room , freezing himself and the only other survivor , Rowan (Lexa Doig) . A team of students 445 years later discover Jason 's body . On the team 's spacecraft , Jason thaws from his cryonic suspension and begins killing the crew . Along the way , he is enhanced by a regenerative nanotechnology process , which gives him an impenetrable metal body . Finally , he is ejected into space and falls to the planet Earth 2 , burning in the atmosphere .

Set before the events of Jason X , Freddy vs. Jason (2003) is a crossover film in which Jason battles A Nightmare on Elm Street 's villain Freddy Krueger (Robert Englund) , a supernatural killer who murders people in their dreams . Krueger has grown weak , as people in his home town of Springwood have suppressed their fear of him . Freddy , who is impersonating Jason 's mother (Paula Shaw) , resurrects Jason (Ken Kirzinger) from Hell and sends him to Springwood to cause

panic and fear . Jason accomplishes this , but refuses to stop killing . A battle ensues in both the dream world and Crystal Lake . The identity of the winner is left ambiguous , as Jason surfaces from the lake holding Freddy 's severed head , which winks and laughs .

In the 2009 Friday the 13th reboot , young Jason (Caleb Guss) witnesses his mother 's (Nana Visitor) beheading as a child and follows in her footsteps , killing anyone who comes to Crystal Lake . The adult Jason (Derek Mears) kidnaps Whitney Miller (Amanda Righetti) , a girl who looks like his mother , and holds her prisoner in his underground tunnels . Months later , Whitney 's brother Clay (Jared Padalecki) comes to Crystal Lake and rescues her . Eventually , Whitney uses Jason 's devotion to his mother against him , stabbing him with his own machete while he is distracted when she appears .

= = = Literature = = =

Jason first appeared outside of film in the 1982 novelization of Friday the 13th Part 3 by Michael Avallone . Avallone chose to use an alternate ending , which was filmed for Part 3 but never used , as the ending for his 1982 adaptation . In the alternate film ending , Chris , who is in the canoe , hears Rick 's voice and immediately rushes back to the house . When she opens the door , Jason is standing there with a machete , and he decapitates her . Jason next appears in print in the 1986 novelization of Jason Lives by Simon Hawke , who also adapted the first three films in 1987 and 1988 . Jason Lives specifically introduced Elias Voorhees , Jason 's father , a character that was slated to appear in the film but was cut by the studio . In the novel , instead of being cremated , Elias has Jason buried after his death .

Jason made his comic book debut in the 1993 adaptation of Jason Goes to Hell , written by Andy Mangels . The three @-@ issue series was a condensed version of the film , with a few added scenes that were never shot . Jason made his first appearance outside of the direct adaptations in Satan 's Six No. 4 , published in 1993 , which is a continuation of the events of Jason Goes to Hell . In 1995 , Nancy A. Collins wrote a three @-@ issue , non @-@ canonical miniseries involving a crossover between Jason and Leatherface . The story involves Jason stowing away aboard a train , after being released from Crystal Lake when the area is drained due to heavy toxic waste dumping . Jason meets Leatherface , who adopts him into his family after the two become friends . Eventually they turn on each other . In 1994 four young adult novels were released under the title of Friday the 13th . They did not feature Jason explicitly , but revolve around people becoming possessed by Jason when they put on his mask .

In 2003 and 2005 , Black Flame published novelizations of Freddy vs. Jason and Jason X respectively . In 2005 they began publishing a new series of novels ; one set was published under the Jason X title , while the second set utilized the Friday the 13th title . The Jason X series consisted of four sequels to the novelization of the film . Jason X : The Experiment was the first published . In this novel , Jason is being used by the government , who are trying to use his indestructibility to create their own army of " super soldiers " . Planet of the Beast follows the efforts of Dr. Bardox and his crew as they try to clone the body of a comatose Jason , and shows their efforts to stay alive when Jason wakes from his coma . Death Moon revolves around Jason crash @-@ landing at Moon Camp Americana . Jason is discovered below a prison site and unknowingly awakened in To The Third Power . Jason has a son in this book , conceived through a form of artificial insemination .

On May 13 , 2005 , Avatar Press began releasing new Friday the 13th comics . The first , titled Friday the 13th , was written by Brian Pulido and illustrated by Mike Wolfer and Greg Waller . The story takes place after the events of Freddy vs. Jason , where siblings Miles and Laura Upland have inherited Camp Crystal Lake . Knowing that Jason caused the recent destruction , Laura , unknown to her brother , sets out to kill Jason using a paramilitary group , so that she and her brother can sell the property . A three @-@ issue miniseries titled Friday the 13th : Bloodbath was released in September 2005 . Written by Brian Pulido and illustrated by Mike Wolfer and Andrew Dalhouse , the story involves a group of teenagers who come from Camp Tomorrow , a camp that sits on Crystal Lake , for work and a " party @-@ filled weekend " . The teenagers discover they share common

family backgrounds , and soon awaken Jason , who hunts them . Brian Pulido returned for a third time in October 2005 to write Jason X. Picking up after the events of the Jason X film , Über @-@ Jason is now on Earth II where a biological engineer , Kristen , attempts to subdue Jason , in hopes that she can use his regenerative tissue to save her own life and the lives of those she loves . In February 2006 Avatar published Friday the 13th : Jason vs. Jason X. Written and illustrated by Mike Wolfer , the story takes place after the events of the film Jason X. A salvage team discovers the spaceship Grendel and awakens a regenerated Jason Voorhees . The " original " Jason and Über @-@ Jason are drawn to each other , resulting in a battle to the death . In June 2006 a one @-@ shot comic entitled Friday the 13th : Fearbook was released , written by Mike Wolfer with art by Sebastian Fiumara . The comic has Jason being captured and experimented upon by the Trent Organization ; Jason escapes and seeks out Violet , the survivor of Friday the 13th : Bloodbath , who is being contained by the Trent Organization in their Crystal Lake headquarters .

The Friday the 13th novella storyline was not connected to the Jason X series , and did not continue the stories set forth by the films , but furthered the character of Jason in its own way . Friday the 13th : Church of the Divine Psychopath has Jason resurrected by a religious cult . Jason is stuck in Hell , when recently executed serial killer Wayne Sanchez persuades Jason to help him return to Earth in Friday the 13th : Hell Lake . In Hate @-@ Kill @-@ Repeat , two religious serial killers attempt to find Jason at Crystal Lake , believing that the three of them share the same contempt for those that break the moral code . In The Jason Strain , Jason is on an island with a group of convicts placed there by television executives running a reality game show . The character of Pamela Voorhees returns from the grave in Carnival of Maniacs . Pamela is in search of Jason , who is now part of a traveling sideshow and about to be auctioned off to the highest bidder .

In December 2006 DC Comics imprint Wildstorm began publishing new comic books about Jason Voorhees under the Friday the 13th moniker . The first set was a six @-@ issue miniseries involving Jason 's return to Camp Crystal Lake , which is being renovated by a group of teenagers in preparation for its reopening as a tourist attraction . The series depicts various paranormal phenomena occurring at Crystal Lake . Jason 's actions in this storyline are driven by the vengeful spirits of a Native American tribe wiped out on the lake by fur traders sometime in the 19th century . On July 11 and August 15 , 2007 , Wildstorm published a two @-@ part special entitled Friday the 13th : Pamela 's Tale . The two @-@ issue comic book covers Pamela Voorhees ' journey to Camp Crystal Lake and the story of her pregnancy with Jason as she recounts it to hitchhiker Annie , a camp counselor who was killed in the original film . Wildstorm released another two @-@ part special , entitled Friday the 13th : How I Spent My Summer Vacation , that was released on September 12 and October 10 , 2007 . The comic book provides new insight into the psychology of Jason Voorhees as he befriends a boy born with a skull deformity . Wildstorm released a six @-@ issue series called Freddy vs. Jason vs. Ash , starring the two killers and Ash from the Evil Dead series . In this story , Freddy uses the Necronomicon , which is in the Voorhees ' basement , to escape from Jason 's subconscious and " gain powers unlike anything he 's had before " . Freddy attempts to use Jason to retrieve the book , stating it will make him a real boy . Ash , who is working at the local S @-@ Mart in Crystal Lake , learns of the book 's existence and sets out to destroy it . Wildstorm released another two @-@ issue miniseries on January 9 and February 13 , 2008 , titled Friday the 13th : Bad Land , written and illustrated by Ron Marz and Mike Huddleston respectively . The miniseries features Jason stalking a trio of teenaged hikers taking shelter from a blizzard in Camp Crystal Lake .

A sequel to Freddy vs. Jason vs. Ash , subtitled The Nightmare Warriors , was released by Wildstorm in 2009 . Jason escapes from the bottom of Crystal Lake to resume his hunt for Ash , but is captured by the U.S. government . Freddy helps him escape and appoints him the general of his Deadite army , using the Necronomicon to heal his accumulated injuries and decomposition ; it removes his natural deformities in the process . At the climax of the story , Jason battles his nemesis Tommy Jarvis and his great @-@ niece Stephanie Kimble ; Stephanie impales him before Tommy decapitates him with a shard of glass . Jason 's soul is then absorbed by Freddy , who uses it to increase his own power .

= = Concept and creation = =

= = = Creating a monster = = =

Initially created by Victor Miller , Jason 's final design was a combined effort by Miller , Ron Kurz , and Tom Savini . The name " Jason " is a combination of " Josh " and " Ian " , Miller 's two sons , and " Voorhees " was inspired by a girl that Miller knew at high school whose last name was Van Voorhees . Miller felt it was a " creepy @-@ sounding name " , which was perfect for his character . Miller initially wrote Jason as a normal @-@ looking child , but the crew behind the film decided he needed to be deformed . Victor Miller explained Jason was not meant to be a creature from the " Black Lagoon " in his script , and scripted Jason as a mentally disabled young boy ; it was Savini who made Jason deformed . Ron Kurz confirmed that Miller 's version of Jason was that of a normal child , but claims that it was his idea to turn Jason into a " mongoloid creature " , and have him " jump out of the lake at the end of the film " . Miller later agreed the ending would not have been as good if he looked like " Betsy Palmer at eight years old " . Miller wrote a scene where Alice dreams she is attacked in a canoe by Jason , and then she wakes up in a hospital bed . Miller 's intention was to get as close to Carrie 's ending as possible . Savini believed having Jason pop out of the lake would be psychologically disturbing to the audience , and since Alice is supposed to be dreaming , the crew could get away with adding anything they wanted .

When it came time to cast the role of Jason , Ari Lehman , who had received a part in Sean Cunningham 's Manny 's Orphans , arrived to read for the character of Jack . Before he could get started , Cunningham walked in and offered him a different part : Jason . Without having read a single word , Cunningham just looked at Ari and said , " You 're the right size , you 've got it . " In the original Friday the 13th , Ari Lehman is seen only in a brief flashback as the surprise ending . Subsequent actors who portrayed a young Jason include Timothy Burr Mirkovich in Jason Takes Manhattan and Spencer Stump in Freddy vs. Jason . The adult role of Jason Voorhees has been played by various actors , some not credited , others taking great pride in their parts . Due to the physical demands the adult character requires , and the lack of emotional depth depicted , many of the actors since have been stuntmen . The most well @-@ known among them is Kane Hodder , who is cited as the best to play the role .

Many ideas were suggested for the sequel to Friday the 13th , including making the title part of a serialized franchise , where each succeeding film would be its own story and not related to any previous film under the Friday the 13th moniker . It was Phil Scuderi , one of the producers for the original film , which suggested bringing Jason back for the sequel . The director Steve Miner felt it was the obvious direction to take the series , as he felt the audience wanted to know more about the child who attacked Alice in the lake . Miner decided to pretend as if Alice did not see the " real Jason " in her dream , and Jason had survived his drowning as a boy and had grown up . After killing Jason in The Final Chapter , it was the director Joseph Zito 's intention to leave the door open for the studio to make more films with Tommy Jarvis as the main antagonist . Screenwriter Barney Cohen felt Jarvis would become a substitute for Jason , but the idea was never fully developed in A New Beginning . Director and co @-@ screenwriter Danny Steinmann disliked the idea of Jason not being the killer , but decided to use Tommy 's fear of Jason as the primary story . This idea was immediately abandoned in Jason Lives , when A New Beginning did not spark the " creative success " the studio was looking for . Executive producer Frank Mancuso , Jr. wanted to bring Jason back , and he did not care how it was achieved . In yet another alteration of the series ' continuity , Tom McLoughlin chose to ignore the idea that Jason had survived his drowning , instead presenting him as always having been some sort of supernatural force . Since A New Beginning , no sequel has attempted to replace Jason as the main antagonist . Miller , who has not seen any of the sequels , took issue with all of them because they made Jason the villain . Miller believes the best part of his screenplay was that it was about a mother avenging the senseless death of her son . Miller stated , " Jason was dead from the very beginning ; he was a victim , not a villain . "

= = = Men behind the mask = = =

Jason Voorhees went from deceased child to full @-@ grown man for Friday the 13th Part 2 , and Warrington Gillette was hired to play the role . Gillette auditioned for the role of Paul ; that role eventually went to John Furey . Under the belief that he had attended the Hollywood Stuntman 's School , Gillette was offered the role of Jason Voorhees . Initially Gillette was unsure about the character , but the idea of starring in his first film grew on Gillette , and he also thought the role was amusing . It became apparent Gillette could not perform the necessary stunts , so the stunt coordinator Cliff Cudney brought in Steve Daskawisz . Daskawisz filmed all of the scenes except the opening sequence and the unmasking shot at the end ; Gillette returned for the unmasking scenes . Gillette received credit for playing Jason , while Daskawisz was given credit as the stunt double . When Part 3 was released the following year , Daskawisz was credited as Jason for the reused footage from the climax of the film . Initially , Daskawisz was asked to return to the role for Part 3 , but it would have required him to pay for his own transportation and housing during filming . Having secured a part on Guiding Light , Daskawisz declined .

Now wanting a " bigger and stronger @-@ looking " Jason , one that was also " more athletic and powerful " , Steve Miner hired former British trapeze artist Richard Brooker . After a simple conversation , Miner decided he was the right person for the job . Being new to the country , Brooker believed that " playing a psychopathic killer " was the best way into the movie business . Brooker became the first actor to wear Jason 's now @-@ signature hockey mask . According to Brooker , " It felt great with the mask on . It just felt like I really was Jason because I didn 't have anything to wear before that . " For The Final Chapter , Joseph Zito brought his own spin to the character , one that required a " real hardcore stuntman " ; Ted White was hired to perform the role . White , who only took the job for the money , did " get into the Jason psychology " when he arrived on the set . White went so far as to not speak to any of the other actors for long stretches . As filming continued , White 's experience was not pleasant , and in one instance , he went to battle for co @-@ star Judie Aronson , who played Samantha , when the director kept her naked in the lake for extended periods of time . Displeased with his experience from filming , White had his name removed from the credits . As with Friday the 13th Part 2 , there was confusion over who performed the role in A New Beginning , partly because Jason is not the literal antagonist in the film . When Ted White turned down the opportunity to return , Dick Wieand was cast . Wieand is credited as Roy Burns , the film 's actual murderer , but it was stuntman Tom Morga who performed in the few flashes of Jason , as well as portraying Roy in almost all of the masked scenes . Wieand has been outspoken about his lack of enthusiasm over his role in the film . Feeling alienated during the shoot , Wieand spent most of his time in his trailer . By comparison , Morga enjoyed his time as Jason and made sure he " really got into the character " .

A nightclub manager in Glendale , C. J. Graham , was interviewed for the role of Jason in Jason Lives , but was initially passed over because he had no experience as a stuntman . Dan Bradley was hired , but Paramount executives felt Bradley did not have the right physique to play the role , and Graham was hired to replace him . Although Bradley was replaced early during filming , he can be seen in the paintball sequence of the film . Graham opted to perform most of his own stunts , including the scene where Jason catches on fire while battling Tommy in the lake . The rest of the cast spoke highly of Graham , remarking that he never complained during all the uncomfortable situations he was placed in . Graham had no intention of being an actor or a stuntman , but the idea of playing the " bad guy " , and the opportunity to wear the prosthetics , intrigued him . Graham was not brought back to reprise the role , but has often been cited as speaking highly of his time in the part .

Kane Hodder took over the role in The New Blood , and played Jason in the next four films . He previously worked alongside director John Carl Buechler on a film called Prison . Based on his experience working with Hodder , Buechler petitioned Frank Mancuso Jr. to hire him , but Mancuso was apprehensive about Hodder 's limited size . Knowing he planned to use full body prosthetics , Buechler scheduled a test screening , the first in Friday the 13th history for the character , and Mancuso immediately gave Hodder approval upon seeing him . It is Buechler 's contention that

Hodder gave Jason his first true personality , based on the emotions , specifically the rage , that Hodder would emit while acting the part . According to Hodder , he wanted to " get in touch with Jason 's thirst for revenge " and try to better understand his motivation to kill . After viewing the previous films , Hodder decided that he would approach Jason as a more " quick and agile " individual than he had been portrayed in the previous sequels . John Carl Buechler felt that Kane had " natural affinity for the role " ? so much that Kane 's appearance , when wearing the mask , would often terrify the cast , the crew , and in one incident a lone stranger that he came across on his walk back to his trailer . Initially Frank Mancuso Jr. and Barbara Sachs planned to use a Canadian stuntperson for Jason Takes Manhattan . Hodder acted as his own voice , calling and requesting that he be allowed to reprise the role ; the ultimate decision was left to director Rob Hedden , who intended to use Hodder , because he felt Hodder knew the lore of the series . With Sean Cunningham 's return as producer for Jason Goes to Hell , Hodder felt his chances of reprising the role were even better : Hodder had worked as Cunningham 's stunt coordinator for years . Regardless , Adam Marcus , the director for Jason Goes to Hell , always intended to hire Hodder for the role . Jason X would mark Hodder 's last performance as Jason , to date . Todd Farmer , who wrote the screenplay for Jason X , knew Hodder would play Jason from the beginning . Jim Isaac was a fan of Hodder 's work on the previous films , so hiring him was an easy decision .

New Line believed Freddy vs. Jason needed a fresh start , and choose a new actor for Jason . Cunningham disagreed with their decision , believing Hodder was the best choice for the role . Hodder did receive the script for Freddy vs. Jason , and had a meeting with director Ronny Yu and New Line executives , but Matthew Barry and Yu felt the role should be recast to fit Yu 's image of Jason . According to Hodder , New Line failed to provide him with a reason for the recasting , but Yu has explained he wanted a slower , more deliberate Jason , and less of the aggressive movements that Hodder had used in the previous films . Yu and development executive Jeff Katz recognized the outcry among fans over the replacement of Hodder as Jason , but stood by their choice in recasting .

The role eventually went to Ken Kirzinger , a Canadian stuntperson who worked on Jason Takes Manhattan . There are conflicting reports over the reason Kirzinger was cast . According to Yu , Kirzinger was hired because he was taller than Robert Englund , the actor who portrays Freddy Krueger . Kirzinger stands 6 feet 5 inches (1 @. @ 96 m) , compared to the 6 feet 3 inches (1 @. @ 91 m) of Kane Hodder , and Yu wanted a much larger actor to tower over the 5 @-@ foot @-@ 10 @-@ inch (1 @. @ 78 m) Englund . Kirzinger believes his experience on Part VIII helped him land the part , as Kirzinger doubled for Hodder on two scenes for the film , but also believes he was simply sized up and handed the job . Although he was hired by the creative crew , New Line did not officially cast Kirzinger until first seeing him on film . Kirzinger 's first scene was Jason walking down Elm Street . New Line wanted a specific movement in Jason 's walk ; Kirzinger met their expectations and signed a contract with the studio . However , concerns that test audiences were confused by the film 's original ending caused the studio to reshoot the final scene . Actor Douglas Tait was brought in to film the new ending , as he was available for the reshoot and had been the production 's second choice to portray the role of Jason during the original casting .

For the 2009 remake , stuntman Derek Mears was hired to portray Jason Voorhees at the recommendation of makeup special effects supervisor Scott Stoddard . Mears 's pleasant demeanor had the studio worried about his ability to portray such a menacing character on screen , but Mears assured them he would be able to perform the role . When Mears auditioned for the role he was asked why they should hire an actor over just another guy in a mask . As Mears explained , portraying Jason is similar to Greek mask work , where the mask and the actor are two separate entities , and , based on the scene , there will be various combinations of mask and actor in the performance .

= = = Design = = =

The physical design of Jason Voorhees has gone through changes , some subtle and some radical . For Friday the 13th , the task of coming up with Jason 's appearance was the responsibility of Tom

Savini , whose design for Jason was inspired by someone Savini knew as a child whose eyes and ears did not line up straight . The original design called for Jason to have hair , but Savini and his crew opted to make him bald , so he would look like a " hydrocephalic , mongoloid pinhead " , with a dome @-@ shaped head . Savini created a plaster mold of Ari Lehman 's head and used that to create prosthetics for his face . Lehman personally placed mud ? from the bottom of the lake ? all over his body to make himself appear " really slimy . "

For Part 2 , Steve Miner asked Carl Fullerton , the make @-@ up effects supervisor , to stick to Savini 's original design , but Fullerton only had one day to design and sculpt a new head . Fullerton drew a rough sketch of what he believed Jason should look like , and had it approved by Miner . Fullerton added long hair to the character . Gillette had to spend hours in a chair as they applied rubber forms all over his face , and had to keep one eye closed while the " droopy eye " application was in place . Gillette 's eye was closed for twelve hours at a time while he was filming the final scenes of the film . False teeth created by a local dentist were used to distort Gillette 's face . Much of the basic concept of Fullerton 's design was eliminated for Part 3 . Miner wanted to use a combination of the designs from Tom Savini and Carl Fullerton , but as work progressed the design began to lean more and more toward Savini 's concept . Stan Winston was hired to create a design for Jason 's head , but the eyes were level and Doug White , the make @-@ up artist for Part 3 , needed a droopy right eye . White did keep Winston 's design for the back of the head , because the crew did not have the time to design an entirely new head for Jason . The process of creating Jason 's look was hard work for White , who had to constantly make alterations to Richard Brooker 's face , even up to the last day of filming .

The script for Part 3 called for Jason to wear a mask to cover his face , having worn a bag over his head in Part 2 ; what no one knew at the time was that the mask chosen would become a trademark for the character , and one instantly recognizable in popular culture in the years to come . During production , Steve Miner called for a lighting check . None of the effects crew wanted to apply any make @-@ up for the light check , so they decided to just throw a mask on Brooker . The film 's 3D effects supervisor , Martin Jay Sadoff , was a hockey fan , and had a bag of hockey gear with him on the set . He pulled out a Detroit Red Wings goaltender mask for the test . Miner loved the mask , but it was too small . Using a substance called VacuForm , Doug White enlarged the mask and created a new mold to work with . After White finished the molds , Terry Ballard placed red triangles on the mask to give it a unique appearance . Holes were punched into the mask and the markings were altered , making it different from Sadoff 's mask . There were two prosthetic face masks created for Richard Brooker to wear underneath the hockey mask . One mask was composed of approximately 11 different appliances and took about six hours to apply to Brooker 's face ; this mask was used for scenes where the hockey mask was removed . In the scenes where the hockey mask is over the face , a simple head mask was created . This one @-@ piece mask would slip on over Brooker 's head , exposing his face but not the rest of his head .

Tom Savini agreed to return to make @-@ up duties for The Final Chapter because he felt he should be the one to bring Jason full circle in terms of his look from child to man . Savini used his design from the original Friday the 13th , with the same practice of application as before , but molded from Ted White 's face . Since Jason is not the actual killer in A New Beginning , it was not necessary to do any major designing for Jason 's look . Only a head mask to cover the top and back of the head , like the one Brooker wore while wearing the hockey mask , was needed for the film . Make @-@ up artist Louis Lazzara , who cites A New Beginning as almost a direct sequel to The Final Chapter , did base his head @-@ mask on Tom Savini 's design for The Final Chapter .

Friday the 13th Part VII : The New Blood sought to make Jason more of a " classic monster along the lines of Frankenstein . " From the beginning , Buechler tried to tie the previous films together by having Jason 's appearance reflect that of the damage he received in the previous installments . Buechler wanted the motor boat damage from Jason Lives , and the axe and machete cuts Jason received in Part 3 and Part 4 to part of the design for The New Blood . Since Jason had been submerged under water in the previous entry , the effects team wanted Jason to appear " rotted " , with bones and ribs showing , and for Jason 's features to have a more defined feel to them . Howard Berger was inspired by Carl Fullerton 's design in The New Blood , and wanted to

incorporate the exposed flesh concept into his model for Jason Goes to Hell . Berger designed Jason 's skin to overlap with the mask , to make it appear as if the skin and mask had fused and the mask could no longer be removed . Gregory Nicotero and Berger sculpted a full @-@ body , foam latex suit for Kane Hodder to wear under the costume . The idea was to reveal as much of Jason 's skin as possible , because Nicotero and Berger knew the physical character would not be seen for most of the film .

Stephen Dupuis was given the task of redesigning Jason for the tenth Friday the 13th film . One concept brought into the film was Jason 's regenerative abilities . Dupuis gave the character more hair and more of a natural flesh appearance to illustrate the constant regeneration the character goes through ; Dupuis wanted a more " gothic " design for Jason , so he added chains and shackles , and made the hockey mask more angular . Jim Isaac and the rest of his crew wanted to create an entirely new Jason at some point in the film . The idea was for the teens to completely destroy Jason 's body , allowing the futuristic technology to bring him back to life . What was referred to as Über @-@ Jason was designed to have chunks of metal growing from his body , bonded by tendrils that grew into the metal , all pushing through a leather suit . The metal was created from VacuForm , the same material used to increase the size of the original hockey mask , and was attached by Velcro . The tendrils were made from silicone . All of the pieces were crafted onto one suit , including an entire head piece , which Hodder wore . The make @-@ up effects team added zippers along the side of the suit , which allowed Hodder to enter and exit the suit within 15 minutes .

By the time Freddy vs. Jason entered production there had been ten previous Friday the 13th films . Make @-@ up effects artist Terezakis wanted to put his own mark on Jason 's look ? he wanted Jason to be less rotted and decomposed and more defined , so that the audience would see a new Jason , but still recognized the face . Terezakis tried to keep continuity with the previous films , but recognized that had he followed them too literally , then " Jason would have been reduced to a pile of goo . " Ronny Yu wanted everything surrounding the hockey mask to act as a frame , making the mask the focal point of each shot . To achieve this , Terezakis created a " pooled @-@ blood look " for the character by painting the skin black , based on the idea the blood had pooled in the back of his head because he had been lying on his back for a long time . As with other make @-@ up artists before him , Terezakis followed Savini 's original skull design , and aged it appropriately .

For the 2009 version of Friday the 13th , effects artist Scott Stoddard took inspiration from Carl Fullerton 's design in Friday the 13th Part 2 and Tom Savini 's work in Friday the 13th : The Final Chapter . Stoddard wanted to make sure that Jason appeared human and not like a monster . Stoddard 's vision of Jason includes hair loss , skin rashes , and the traditional deformities in his face , but he attempted to craft Jason 's look in a way that would allow for a more human side to be seen . Stoddard took inspiration from the third and fourth films when designing Jason 's hockey mask . The make @-@ up artist managed to acquire an original set piece , which he studied and later sculpted . Although he had a model of one of the original masks , Stoddard did not want to replicate it in its entirety . As Stoddard explains , " Because I didn 't want to take something that already existed , there were things I thought were great , but there were things I wanted to change a bit . Make it custom , but keep all the fundamental designs . Especially the markings on the forehead and cheeks . Age them down a bit , break them up . " In the end , Stoddard crafted six versions of the mask , each with varying degrees of wear .

= = Characteristics = =

In his original appearance , Jason was scripted as a mentally disabled young boy . Since Friday the 13th , Jason Voorhees has been depicted as a non @-@ verbal , indestructible , machete @-@ wielding mass murderer . Jason is primarily portrayed as being completely silent throughout the film series . Exceptions to this include flashbacks of Jason as a child , and a brief scene in Jason Takes Manhattan where the character cries out " Mommy , please don 't let me drown ! " in a child 's voice before being submerged in toxic waste , and in Jason Goes To Hell where his spirit possesses other individuals . Online magazine Salon 's Andrew O 'Hehir describes Jason as a " silent , expressionless ... blank slate . " When discussing Jason psychologically , Sean S. Cunningham said

, " ... he doesn 't have any personality . He 's like a great white shark . You can 't really defeat him . All you can hope for is to survive . " Since Friday the 13th Part VI : Jason Lives , Jason has been a " virtually indestructible " being . Tom McLoughlin , the film 's director , felt it was silly that Jason had previously been just another guy in a mask , who would kill people left and right , but get " beaten up and knocked down by the heroine at the end " . McLoughlin wanted Jason to be more of a " formidable , unstoppable monster " . In resurrecting Jason from the dead , McLoughlin also gave him the weakness of being rendered helpless if trapped beneath the waters of Crystal Lake ; inspired by vampire lore , McLoughlin decided that Jason had in fact drowned as a child , and that returning him to his original resting place would immobilize him . This weakness would be presented again in The New Blood , and the idea that Jason had drowned as a child was taken up by director Rob Hedden as a plot element in Jason Takes Manhattan .

Many have given suggestions as Jason 's motivation for killing . Ken Kirzinger refers to Jason as a " psychotic mama 's boy gone horribly awry ... very resilient . You can 't kill him , but he feels pain , just not like everyone else . " Kirzinger goes on to say that Jason is a " psycho @-@ savant " , and believes his actions are based on pleasing his mother , and not anything personal . Andrew O 'Hehir has stated , " Coursing hormones act , of course , as smelling salts to prudish Jason , that ever @-@ vigilant enforcer of William Bennett @-@ style values . " Todd Farmer , writer for Jason X , wrote the scene where Jason wakes from cryonic hibernation just as two of the teenagers are having sex . Farmer liked the idea that sex acts triggered Jason back to life . Whatever his motivations , Kane Hodder believes there is a limit to what he will do . According to Hodder , Jason might violently murder any person he comes across , but when Jason Takes Manhattan called for Hodder to kick the lead character 's dog , Hodder refused , stating that , while Jason has no qualms against killing humans , he is not bad enough to hurt animals . Another example from Jason Takes Manhattan , involves Jason being confronted by a street gang of young teenage boys one of whom threatens him with a knife , however Jason chooses not to kill them and instead scares them off by lifting up his mask and showing them his face . Likewise , director Tom McLoughlin chose not to have Jason harm any of the children he encounters in Jason Lives , stating that Jason would not kill a child , out of a sympathy for the plight of children generated by his own death as a child .

In an early draft of Freddy vs. Jason , it was decided that one of the villains needed a redeemable factor . Ronald D. Moore , co @-@ writer of the first draft , explained that Jason was the easiest to make redeemable , because no one had previously ventured into the psychology surrounding the character . Moore saw the character as a " blank slate " , and felt he was a character the audience could really root for . Another draft , penned by Mark Protosevich , followed Moore 's idea of Jason having a redeemable quality . In the draft , Jason protects a pregnant teenager named Rachel Daniels . Protosevich explained , " It gets into this whole idea of there being two kinds of monsters . Freddy is a figure of actual pure evil and Jason is more like a figure of vengeance who punishes people he feels do not deserve to live . Ultimately , the two of them clash and Jason becomes an honorable monster . " Writers Damian Shannon and Mark Swift , who wrote the final draft of the film , disagreed about making Jason a hero , although they drew comparisons between the fact that Freddy was a victimizer and Jason was a victim . They stated , " We did not want to make Jason any less scary . He 's still a brutal killer ... We never wanted to put them in a situation where Jason is a hero ... They 're both villains to be equally feared . " Brenna O 'Brien , co @-@ founder of Fridaythe13thfilms.com , saw the character as having sympathetic qualities . She stated , " [Jason] was a deformed child who almost drowned and then spent the rest of his childhood growing up alone in the woods . He saw his mother get murdered by a camp counselor in the first Friday the 13th , and so now he exacts his revenge on anyone who returns to Camp Crystal Lake . Teenage fans can identify with that sense of rejection and isolation , which you can 't really get from other killers like Freddy Krueger and Michael Myers . "

As Jason went through some characterization changes in the 2009 film , Derek Mears likens him more to a combination of John Rambo , Tarzan , and the Abominable Snowman from Looney Tunes . To him , this Jason is similar to Rambo because he sets up the other characters to fall into his traps . Like Rambo , he is more calculated because he feels that he has been wronged and he is fighting back ; he is meant to be more sympathetic in this film . Fuller and Form contend that they

did not want to make Jason too sympathetic to the audience . As Brad Fuller explains , " We do not want him to be sympathetic . Jason is not a comedic character , he is not sympathetic . He 's a killing machine . Plain and simple . "

In 2005 , California State University 's Media Psychology Lab surveyed 1 @@ 166 people Americans aged from 16 to 91 on the psychological appeal of movie monsters . Many of the characteristics associated with Jason Voorhees were appealing to the participants . In the survey , Jason was considered to be an " unstoppable killing machine . " Participants were impressed by the " cornucopic feats of slicing and dicing a seemingly endless number of adolescents and the occasional adult . " Out of the ten monsters used in the survey ? which included vampires , Freddy Krueger , Frankenstein 's monster , Michael Myers , Godzilla , Chucky , Hannibal Lecter , King Kong , and the Alien ? Jason scored the highest in all the categories involving killing variables . Further characteristics that appealed to the participants included Jason 's " immortality , his apparent enjoyment of killing [and] his superhuman strength . "

= = In popular culture = =

Jason Voorhees is one of the leading cultural icons of American popular culture . In 1992 Jason was awarded the MTV Lifetime Achievement Award . He was the first of only three completely fictional characters to be presented the award ; Godzilla (1996) and Chewbacca (1997) are the others . Jason was named No. 26 in Wizard magazine 's " 100 greatest villains of all time " . Universal Studios theme parks , in collaboration with New Line Cinema , used the character for their Halloween Horror Nights event .

The character has been produced and marketed as merchandise over the years . In 1988 Screamin ' Toys produced a model kit where owners could build their own Jason statuette . The kit required the owner to cut and paint various parts in order to assemble the figure . Six years later , Screamin ' Toys issued a new model kit for Jason Goes to Hell . Both kits are now out of production . McFarlane Toys released two toy lines , one in 1998 and the other in 2002 . The first was a figure of Jason from Jason Goes to Hell , and the other was of Über @@ Jason from Jason X. Since McFarlane 's last toy line in 2002 , there has been a steady production of action figures , dolls , and statuettes . These include tie @-@ ins with the film Freddy vs. Jason (2003) . In April 2010 Sideshow Toys released a polystone statue of Jason , based on the version appearing in the 2009 remake .

Jason has made an appearance in four video games . He first appeared in a 1985 Commodore 64 game . His next appearance was in 1989 , when LJN , an American game company known for its games based on popular movies in the 1980s and early 1990s , released Friday the 13th on the Nintendo Entertainment System . The premise involved the gamer , who picks one of six camp counselors as their player , trying to save the campers from Jason , while battling various enemies throughout the game . On October 13 , 2006 , a Friday the 13th game was released for mobile phones . The game puts the user in the persona of Jason as he battles the undead . Jason also appears as a playable character in the fighting game Mortal Kombat X as a downloadable content bonus character .

The character has been referenced , or made cameo appearances , in various entertainment mediums . Outside of literature sources based on the character , Jason has been featured in a variety of magazines and comic strips . Cracked magazine has released several issues featuring parodies of Jason , and he has been featured on two of their covers . Mad magazine has featured the character in almost a dozen stories . He has appeared twice in the comic strip Mother Goose and Grimm .

Many musical artists have made references to Jason Voorhees . Inspired by his own experience , Ari Lehman founded a band called FIRSTJASON . Lehman 's band is classified as horror punk , and is influenced by the sounds of the Dead Kennedys and The Misfits . The band 's name pays homage to Lehman 's portrayal of Jason Voorhees in the original Friday the 13th . One of the band 's songs is entitled " Jason is Watching " . In 1986 , coinciding with the release of Jason Lives , Alice Cooper released " He 's Back (The Man Behind the Mask) " from his album Constrictor . The song was

written to " signal Jason 's big return " to the cinema , as he had been almost entirely absent in the previous film . Rapper Eminem has referenced Jason in several of his songs . The song " Criminal " , from the album The Marshall Mathers LP , mentions Jason specifically , while songs " Amityville " and " Off the Wall " ? the latter featured fellow rapper Redman ? contain Harry Manfredini 's music " ki , ki , ki ... ma , ma , ma " from the film series . Eminem sometimes wears a hockey mask during concerts . Other rap artists that have referenced Jason include Tupac Shakur , Dr. Dre , LL Cool J , and Insane Clown Posse . In 1989 , Puerto Rican rapper Vico C had a song titled " Viernes 13 " which featured Jason in Puerto Rico . The song was so popular in the island that Vico C wrote a second part titled " Viernes 13 , Parte II " . VH1 issued an advertisement for their Vogue Fashion Awards which was labeled " Friday the 20th " , and featured Jason 's mask created out of rhinestone .

Jason has been referenced or parodied in other films . In the film Scream , directed by Freddy Krueger creator Wes Craven , actress Drew Barrymore 's character is being stalked by a killer who calls her on her home phone . In order to survive , she must answer the man 's trivia questions . One question is " name the killer in Friday the 13th . " She incorrectly guesses Jason , who did not become the killer for the franchise until Part 2 . Writer Kevin Williamson claimed his inspiration for this scene came when he asked this question in a bar while a group was playing a movie trivia quiz game . He received a free drink , because nobody got the answer right . In another Wes Craven film , Cursed , a wax sculpture of Jason , from Jason Goes to Hell , can be seen in a wax museum .

Jason has also been referenced by several television shows . The stop motion animated television show Robot Chicken features Jason in three of its comedy sketches . In episode seventeen , " Operation : Rich in Spirit " , the mystery @-@ solving teenagers from Scooby @-@ Doo arrive at Camp Crystal Lake to investigate the Jason Voorhees murders , and are killed off one by one . Velma is the only survivor , and in typical Scooby @-@ Doo fashion , she rips off Jason 's mask to reveal his true identity : Old Man Phillips . In episode nineteen , " That Hurts Me " , Jason reappears , this time as a housemate of " Horror Movie Big Brother " , alongside other famous slasher movie killers such as Michael Myers , Freddy Krueger , Leatherface , Pinhead , and Ghostface . Three years later , in episode sixty @-@ two , Jason is shown on the days before and after a typical Friday the 13th . Jason is spoofed in the season five episode of Family Guy entitled " It Takes a Village Idiot , and I Married One " . The so @-@ called " Mr. Voorhees " explains to Asian reporter Trisha Takanawa how happy he is to see local wildlife return following the cleanup and rejuvenation of Lake Quahog . He reappears later in the episode as the manager of the " Britches and Hose " clothing store . As opposed to his monstrous personality in the films , Jason is depicted here as polite and articulate , albeit still a psychopath ; he murders random swimmers and threatens to kill his employee if she screws up . In an episode of The Simpsons , Jason appears in a Halloween episode sitting on the couch with Freddy Krueger waiting for the family to arrive . When Freddy asks where the family is , Jason responds , " Ehh , whaddya gonna do ? " and turns the TV on . He also appears in The Simpsons episode " Stop , or My Dog Will Shoot ! " , alongside Pinhead , menacing Bart in a fantasy sequence . The South Park episodes " Imaginationland Episode II " and " III " feature Jason among an assortment of other villains and monsters as an inhabitant of the " bad side " of Imaginationland , a world populated by fictional characters . This version of Jason has an effeminate voice and describes the removal of Strawberry Shortcake 's eyeball as " super hardcore " . Experimental pop artist Eric Millikin created a large mosaic portrait of Jason Voorhees out of Halloween candy and spiders as part of his " Totally Sweet " series in 2013 .