

The Paragon Multimedia DVD, VHS Collection

Title: **The Lord of the Rings** (2004)



Discs 6 - Motion Picture

Library Image

ISBN: 5017239191695 [Fellowship of the Ring] 2001
 5017239191794 [The Two Towers] 2002
 5017239192319 [The Return of the King] 2003

Information

How to Watch The Lord of the Rings Movies By Release Date

The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (2001) 178m PG
 The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers (2002) 179m 12A
 The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King (2003) 201m 12A
 The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (2012)
 The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (2013)
 The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies (2014)
 Rings of Power TV Series (2022)

Storyline

The Fellowship of the Ring

Main article: The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring

In the Second Age of Middle-earth, the lords of Elves, Dwarves, and Men are given Rings of Power. Unbeknownst to them, the Dark Lord Sauron forges the One Ring in Mount Doom, instilling into it a great part of his power, to dominate the other Rings to conquer Middle-earth. A final alliance of Men and Elves battles Sauron's forces in Mordor. Isildur of Gondor severs Sauron's finger and the Ring with it,

The Lord of the Rings



Directed by	Peter Jackson
Screenplay by	Fran Walsh Philippa Boyens Peter Jackson Stephen Sinclair ^{TT}
Based on	<i>The Lord of the Rings</i> by J. R. R. Tolkien
Produced by	Barrie M. Osborne Peter Jackson Fran Walsh Tim Sanders ^{FOTR}
Starring	Elijah Wood Ian McKellen Liv Tyler Viggo Mortensen Sean Astin Cate Blanchett John Rhys-Davies Christopher Lee Billy Boyd Dominic Monaghan Orlando Bloom Hugo Weaving Andy Serkis Sean Bean
Cinematography	Andrew Lesnie
Edited by	John Gilbert ^{FOTR} Michael Horton ^{TT} Jamie Selkirk ^{ROTK}
Music by	Howard Shore
Production companies	New Line Cinema WingNut Films
Distributed by	New Line Cinema
Release date	2001–2003
Running time	Total (3 films): 558 minutes (theatrical) 686 minutes (extended)
Countries	New Zealand United States
Language	English
Budget	Total (3 films): \$281 million
Box office	Total (3 films): \$2.991 billion

thereby vanquishing Sauron and returning him to spirit form. With Sauron's first defeat, the Third Age of Middle-earth begins. The Ring's influence corrupts Isildur, who takes it for himself and is later killed by Orcs. The Ring is lost in a river for 2,500 years until it is found by Gollum, who owns it for over four and a half centuries. The ring abandons Gollum and it is subsequently found by a hobbit named Bilbo Baggins, who is unaware of its history.

Sixty years later, Bilbo celebrates his 111th birthday in the Shire, reuniting with his old friend, the wizard Gandalf the Grey. Bilbo departs the Shire for one last adventure, and he leaves his inheritance, including the Ring, to his nephew Frodo. Gandalf investigates the Ring, discovers its true nature, and learns that Gollum was captured and tortured by Sauron's Orcs, revealing two words during his interrogation: "Shire" and "Baggins." Gandalf returns and warns Frodo to leave the Shire. As Frodo departs with his friend, gardener Samwise Gamgee, Gandalf rides to Isengard to meet with the wizard Saruman, but discovers his betrayal and alliance with Sauron, who has dispatched his nine undead Nazgûl servants to find Frodo.

Frodo and Sam are joined by fellow hobbits Merry and Pippin, and they evade the Nazgûl before arriving in Bree, where they are meant to meet Gandalf. However, Gandalf never arrives, having been taken prisoner by Saruman. The hobbits are then aided by a Ranger named Strider, who promises to escort them to Rivendell; however, they are ambushed by the Nazgûl on Weathertop, and their leader, the Witch-King, stabs Frodo with a Morgul blade. Arwen, an Elf and Strider's beloved, locates Strider and rescues Frodo, summoning flood-waters that sweep the Nazgûl away. She takes him to Rivendell, where he is healed by the Elves. Frodo meets with Gandalf, who escaped Isengard on a Great Eagle. That night, Strider reunites with Arwen, and they affirm their love for each other.

Learning of Saruman's betrayal from Gandalf and now realizing that they are facing threats from both Sauron and Saruman, Arwen's father, Lord Elrond, decides against keeping the Ring in Rivendell. He holds a council of Elves, Men, and Dwarves, also attended by Frodo and Gandalf, that decides the Ring must be destroyed in the fires of Mount Doom. Frodo volunteers to take the Ring, accompanied by Gandalf, Sam, Merry, Pippin, Elf Legolas, Dwarf Gimli, Boromir of Gondor, and Strider—who is actually Aragorn, Isildur's heir and the rightful King of Gondor. Bilbo, now living in Rivendell, gives Frodo his sword Sting, and a chainmail shirt made of mithril.

The Fellowship of the Ring makes for the Gap of Rohan, but discover it is being watched by Saruman's spies. They instead set off over the mountain pass of Caradhras, but Saruman summons a storm that forces them to travel through the Mines of Moria. After finding the Dwarves of Moria dead, the Fellowship is attacked by Orcs and a cave troll. They hold them off but are confronted by Durin's Bane: a Balrog residing within the mines. While the others escape, Gandalf fends off the Balrog and casts it into a vast chasm, but the Balrog drags Gandalf down into the darkness with him. The devastated Fellowship reaches Lothlórien, ruled by the Elf-queen Galadriel, who privately informs Frodo that only he can complete the quest and that one of the Fellowship will try to take the Ring. She also shows him a vision of the future in which Sauron succeeds in enslaving Middle-earth, including the Shire. Meanwhile, Saruman creates an army of Uruk-hai in Isengard to find and kill the Fellowship.

The Fellowship travels by river to Parth Galen. Frodo wanders off and is confronted by Boromir, who, as Lady Galadriel had warned, tries to take the Ring. Uruk-hai scouts then ambush the Fellowship; their leader, Lurtz, mortally wounds Boromir as he fails to stop them from taking Merry and Pippin as prisoners. Aragorn arrives and kills Lurtz before comforting Boromir as he dies, promising to help the people of Gondor in the coming conflict. Fearing the Ring will corrupt his friends, Frodo decides to travel to Mordor alone, but allows Sam to come along, recalling his promise to Gandalf to look after him. As Aragorn, Legolas, and Gimli set out to rescue Merry and Pippin, Frodo and Sam make their way down the mountain pass of Eryn Muil, journeying on to Mordor.

The Two Towers

Main article: [The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers](#)

Awakening from a dream of Gandalf fighting the Balrog in Moria, Frodo Baggins finds himself, along with Samwise Gamgee, lost in the Eryn Muil near Mordor. They discover that they are being tracked by Gollum, a former bearer of the One Ring. Capturing Gollum, Frodo takes pity and allows him to guide them, reminding Sam that they will need Gollum's help to infiltrate Mordor.

Aragorn, Legolas, and Gimli pursue a band of Uruk-hai to save their companions Merry and Pippin, entering the kingdom of Rohan. The Uruk-hai are ambushed by a group of Rohirrim, allowing Merry and Pippin to escape into Fangorn Forest. Meeting Aragorn's group, the Rohirrim's leader Éomer explains that he and his men have been exiled by Rohan's king, Théoden, who is under the control of Saruman and his servant Gríma Wormtongue. Éomer believes Merry and Pippin were killed during the raid but leaves the group two horses. In Fangorn, Aragorn's group encounters Gandalf, who after his fight against the Balrog was resurrected as Gandalf the White to help save Middle-earth.

Gandalf leads the trio to Rohan's capital, Edoras, where Gandalf frees Théoden from Saruman's control. Aragorn stops Théoden from executing Wormtongue, who flees. Learning of Saruman's plans to destroy Rohan with his Uruk-hai army, Théoden evacuates his citizens to the fortress of The Hornburg at Helm's Deep. Gandalf departs to find Éomer and his followers, hoping they will fight for their restored king. Aragorn befriends Théoden's niece, Éowyn, who becomes infatuated with him. When the refugees travelling to Helm's Deep are attacked by Saruman's Warg-riding Orcs, Aragorn falls from a cliff and is presumed dead. He is found by Théodred's horse Brego and rides to Helm's Deep, witnessing Saruman's army marching to the fortress.

In Rivendell, Arwen is told by her father Elrond that Aragorn will not return. He reminds her that if she remains in Middle-earth, she will outlive Aragorn by thousands of years, and she reluctantly departs for Valinor. Elrond is contacted by Galadriel of Lothlórien, who convinces him that the Elves should honour their alliance to men, and they dispatch an army of Elves to Helm's Deep.

In Fangorn, Merry and Pippin meet Treebeard, an Ent. Convincing Treebeard that they are allies, they are brought to an Ent Council, where the Ents decide not to take part in the coming war. Pippin asks Treebeard to take them in the direction of Isengard, where they witness the deforestation caused by Saruman's war effort. Enraged, Treebeard and the Ents storm Isengard, trapping Saruman in his tower.

Aragorn arrives at Helm's Deep, bringing word that Saruman's army is close and Théoden must prepare for battle despite being vastly outnumbered. The army of Elves from Lothlórien arrives, as does Saruman's army, and a battle ensues. The Uruk-hai breach the outer wall with explosives and during the ensuing charge kill the Elves' commander, Haldir. The defenders retreat into the keep, where Aragorn convinces Théoden to meet the Uruk-hai in one last charge. At dawn, as the defenders are overwhelmed, Gandalf and Éomer arrive with the Rohirrim, turning the tide of the battle. The surviving Uruk-hai flee into Fangorn Forest and are killed by the trees. Gandalf warns that Sauron will retaliate.

Gollum leads Frodo and Sam through the Dead Marshes to the Black Gate, but recommends they enter Mordor by another route. Frodo and Sam are captured by Rangers of Ithilien led by Faramir, younger brother of the late Boromir. Frodo helps Faramir catch Gollum to save him from being killed by the Rangers. Learning of the One Ring, Faramir takes his captives to Gondor to bring the ring to his father Denethor. Passing through the besieged city of Osgiliath, Frodo tries to explain to Faramir the true nature of the ring, and Sam explains that Boromir was driven mad by its power. A Nazgûl nearly captures Frodo, who falls under the ring's power, but Sam saves him and reminds him that they are fighting for the good still left in Middle-earth. Impressed by Frodo's resolve, Faramir releases them. Feeling betrayed, Gollum decides he will reclaim the Ring by leading Frodo to "Her" upon arriving at Cirith Ungol.

The Return of the King

Main article: [The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King](#)

The hobbit, Sméagol, is fishing with his cousin Déagol, who discovers the One Ring in the river. Sméagol's mind is ensnared by the Ring, and he kills his cousin for it. Increasingly corrupted physically and mentally, he retreats into the Misty Mountains and becomes known as Gollum.

Centuries later, during the War of the Ring, Gandalf leads Aragorn, Legolas, Gimli, and King Théoden of Rohan to Isengard, where they reunite with Merry and Pippin. Gandalf retrieves Saruman's palantír, and the group returns to Edoras to celebrate their victory at Helm's Deep.[a] Pippin looks into the palantír, seeing Sauron and a burning tree. Gandalf deduces that the enemy plans to attack Gondor's capital Minas Tirith; he rides there to warn Gondor's steward Denethor. Pippin, who accompanies him, swears fealty to Denethor, whose now-dead heir Boromir had saved his life;[b] on Gandalf's instruction, Pippin triggers the lighting of the beacons, which call for help from Rohan.

Frodo, who carries the Ring, and Sam continue their journey towards Mordor, unaware that Gollum, now their guide, plans to betray them and take the Ring for himself. The trio witnessed the Witch-king of Angmar, lord of the nine Nazgûl, setting off towards Gondor with his army of Orcs. Gollum conspires to frame Sam for eating food supplies and desiring the Ring; influenced by the growing power of the Ring, Frodo is taken in by the deception, and orders Sam to go home. Gollum then tricks Frodo into venturing into the lair of the giant spider Shelob. Frodo narrowly escapes and confronts Gollum, who falls down a chasm after a scuffle. Shelob discovers, paralyzes, and binds Frodo, but is wounded and driven away by a returning Sam, who, mourning Frodo's apparent death, takes the Ring. Sam realizes his mistake when a group of Orcs takes Frodo captive but manages to rescue Frodo as the Orcs fight among themselves. Now inside Mordor, the hobbits continue towards Mount Doom, their destination.

As King Théoden gathers his army, Elrond tells Aragorn that Arwen is dying, having refused to leave Middle-earth. Elrond gives Aragorn Andúril, reforged from the shards of King Elendil's sword Narsil, and urges him to commit to claiming Gondor's throne, to which he is the heir. Joined by Legolas and Gimli, Aragorn travels the Paths of the Dead, and pledges to release the ghosts there from their curse should they come to Gondor's aid. Meanwhile, Faramir, who was earlier overwhelmed and driven back to Minas Tirith by the Witch-king, is gravely wounded in a suicide charge; believing his son to be dead, Denethor falls into madness. Gandalf marshals the defenders, but the huge Orc army breaks into the city. Denethor attempts to burn himself and Faramir on a pyre, but Pippin alerts Gandalf and they rescue Faramir. Denethor set ablaze and in agony, jumps to his death.

Théoden arrives and leads his army against the Orcs. Despite initial success against Orcs in the ensuing battle, they are decimated by the Oliphaunt-riding Haradrim and the Witch-king mortally wounds Théoden; however, his niece Éowyn slays the Witch-king with Merry's help. Théoden dies in his niece's arms. Aragorn then arrives with his Army of the Dead, who overcome Sauron's forces. Their oath is fulfilled, and the Dead are released from their curse. Aragorn decides to march on Mordor to distract Sauron from Frodo, now extremely weak, and Sam; all of Sauron's remaining forces march to meet Aragorn's diversion, allowing the hobbits to reach Mount Doom. Gollum, who survived his earlier fall, attacks them, but Frodo still manages to enter the mountain. There, he succumbs to the Ring's power, putting it on his finger, but Gollum manages to bite off his finger and reclaim it. They struggle together and both fall off the ledge. Frodo clings to it with one hand as remorse and guilt flood his mind in the wake of his succumbing to the ring when Sam's unwavering faith and belief in his friend convinces him to make one final reach for Sam's hand, saving Frodo's life. Gollum falls and dies; the Ring, which fell with him, disintegrates in the lava, causing Barad-dûr to crumble as The Eye of Sauron explodes, destroying the dark lord once and for all. Aragorn's army emerges victorious as its enemies and the lands of Mordor collapse into the earth, and Mount Doom erupts, with Frodo and Sam narrowly escaping the lava.

Gandalf rescues the hobbits with the help of eagles, and the surviving Fellowship is happily reunited in Minas Tirith. Aragorn is crowned King of Gondor and marries Arwen. The Hobbits return home to the Shire, where Sam marries Rosie Cotton. Four years later, Frodo, whose wound inflicted by the Nazgûl refuses to heal and suffering from trauma, departs Middle-earth for the Undying Lands with his uncle Bilbo, Gandalf, and the Elves. He leaves Sam the Red Book of Westmarch, which details their adventures. Sam returns to the Shire, where he embraces Rosie and their children.

Cast

Character	<i>The Fellowship of the Ring</i>	<i>The Two Towers</i>	<i>The Return of the King</i>
The Fellowship			
Frodo Baggins		Elijah Wood	
Aragorn		Viggo Mortensen	
Boromir		Sean Bean	
Meriadoc "Merry" Brandybuck		Dominic Monaghan	
Samwise Gamgee		Sean Astin	
Gandalf		Ian McKellen	
Gimli		John Rhys-Davies	
Legolas		Orlando Bloom	
Peregrin "Pippin" Took		Billy Boyd	
The Shire and Bree			
Bilbo Baggins	Ian Holm		Ian Holm
Mrs. Bracegirdle	Lori Dungey		
Barliman Butterbur	David Weatherley		
Rosie Cotton	Sarah McLeod		Sarah McLeod
Caffer Gamgee	Norman Forsey		Norman Forsey
Blantor Gamgee			Alexandra Astin
Bree Gate-Keeper	Marilyn Sanderson		
Farmer Maggot	Cameron Rhodes		
Old Noakes	Bill Johnson		
Everard Proudfoot	Noel Appleby		Noel Appleby
Mrs. Proudfoot	Megan Edwards		
Otho Sackville	Peter Corrigan		
Lobelia Sackville-Baggins	Elizabeth Moody		
Ted Sandyman	Brian Sargent		
Rivendell and Lothlórien			
Arwen		Liv Tyler	
Celeborn	Marlon Cookas		Marlon Cookas
Elrond		Hugo Weaving	
Fligwit	Bret McKenzie		Bret McKenzie
Galadriel		Cate Blanchett	
Haldir		Craig Parker	
Kûmit	Jørn Benzon		
Isengard and Mordor			
Gollum / Sméagol		Andy Serkis	
Gorbag			Stephen Ure
Gothmog			Lawrence Makoare
Grima Wormtongue			Craig Parker (voice)
Grihnákh			Brad Dourif
Lurtz	Lawrence Makoare		Stephen Ure
Mauhûr			Robbie Magasiva
Mouth of Sauron			Andy Serkis (voice)
The One Ring	Alan Howard (voice)		Bruce Spence
Saruman			Alan Howard (voice)
Sauron	Sala Baker		Christopher Lee
Shagrat	Alan Howard (voice)		Sala Baker
Sharku			Alan Howard (voice)
Snaga			Peter Tait
Uglúk			Jed Brophy
Witch-king of Angmar			Jed Brophy
			Andy Serkis (voice)
			Nathaniel Lees
			Lawrence Makoare
Rohan and Gondor			
Damrod			Alistair Browning
Denethor			John Noble
Eomer			Karl Urban
Eothain			Sam Comery
Bowyn			Miranda Otto
Faramir			David Wenham
Freda			Olivia Tennet
Gamling			Bruce Hopkins
Grimbold			Bruce Phillips
Hama			John Leigh
Haleth			Calum Gittins
Iroalas			
King of the Dead			Ian Hughes
Madril			Paul Norell
Morwen			John Bach
Théoden			Robyn Malcolm
Théodred			Bernard Hill
Trebeard			Fans Howe Strowe
			John Rhys-Davies (voice)
Historical figures			
Déagol	Thomas Robins (hand only)		Thomas Robins
Blandil	Peter McKenzie		
Gil-galad	Mark Ferguson		
Isildur	Harry Sinclair		Harry Sinclair

Crew [edit]

Crew	<i>The Fellowship of the Ring</i>	<i>The Two Towers</i>	<i>The Return of the King</i>
Director		Peter Jackson	
Producers	Barrie M. Osborne, Peter Jackson, Fran Walsh, and Tim Sanders ^{FOTR}		
Screenwriters	Fran Walsh, Philippa Boyens, Peter Jackson, and Stephen Sinclair ^{TT}		
Composer	Howard Shore		
Cinematographer	Andrew Lesnie		
Editors	John Gilbert ^{FOTR}	Michael Horton ^{TT}	Jamie Selkirk ^{ROTK}
Production designers	Dan Hennah and Grant Major		
Conceptual designers	Alan Lee and John Howe		
Costume designers	Ngila Dickson and Richard Taylor		
Visual effects supervisor	Jim Rygiel		
Production companies	New Line Cinema and WingNut Films		
Distributing company	New Line Cinema		

^{FOTR} indicates he only worked on *The Fellowship of the Ring*.

^{TT} indicates he only worked on *The Two Towers*.

^{ROTK} indicates he is only credited as editor on *The Return of the King*.

Parents Guide

Certification

Argentina:16 Argentina:X (original rating) Argentina:16 (2004, with warning, DVD rating) Argentina:18 (1998, re-rating, with warning) Australia:M Australia:R (original rating) Australia:M (re-rating) Brazil:18 Brazil:14 (re-rating) Canada:R Canada:14A (Alberta) Chile:18 (2003, re-rating) Chile:(Banned) (original rating, 1989-2002) Finland:K-16 France:Tous publics Germany:16 Hong Kong:III Hungary:16 Iceland:16 India:A Indonesia:D Ireland:18 Italy:VM14 Malaysia:18 Maldives:18+ (self-applied) Mexico:C Mexico:S/C (original rating, banned) Nigeria:15 Norway:18 Peru:18 Philippines:(Banned) Philippines:R-18 (recommended rating) Poland:16 (self-applied) Portugal:M/16 Russia:16+ Saudi Arabia:R18 Singapore:(Banned) Singapore:R21 (recommended rating) South Africa:18 South Korea:18 Spain:13 Sweden:15 United Kingdom:18 United Kingdom:18 (original rating) United Kingdom:15 (2000) United Kingdom:18 (1988, video rating) United States:R (certificate #29344) United Arab Emirates:15+ (DVD rating) West Germany:16

Sex & Nudity

Severe

Violence & Gore

Severe

Profanity

None

Alcohol, Drugs & Smoking

Mild

Frightening & Intense Scenes

Severe

Rated R for sexual themes and graphic nudity throughout, bloody violence, and some surreal and scary images

