

# The Paragon Multimedia DVD, VHS Collection

Title: **My Fair Lady**

[1 Disc]

Library Image



ISBN: 7321900166683

## Information

**Title:** *My Fair Lady* 21<sup>st</sup> January 1965 United Kingdom (London Prem.)

**Origin:** United States

**Release date:** United States – 25th December 1964

**AKA:** Also known as: *My Fair Lady* was adapted from the Lerner and Loewe stage musical of the same name, which itself was based on *Pygmalion* (1938), a film adaptation of the original stage play *Pygmalion* by George Bernard Shaw. The film won the 1964 Academy Award for Best Picture. A remake, *My Fair Lady*, is in development with no set release date.

**Genres:** Classical, Drama, Family, Musical, Romance

**Classification:** U

**Disc Nos.** 1

**Duration:** 2hr 50m

**Region Code:**

**Region:**

**Product Code:**

**MPN:**

**EAN:**

**UPC:**

**Languages:** English

**Filming locations:** Stage 16, Warner Brothers Burbank Studios - 4000 Warner Boulevard, Burbank, California, USA (Ascot & Ballroom scenes)

**Sound mix:** Dolby Surround Sound 7.1

**Pal** – Colour DeLuxe, Hollywood (CA), USA(restored version)Technicolor, Hollywood (CA), USA

**My Fair Lady**



Theatrical release poster by Bill Gold;  
original illustration by Bob Peak

<b>Directed by</b>	George Cukor
<b>Screenplay by</b>	Alan Jay Lerner
<b>Based on</b>	<i>My Fair Lady</i> by Alan Jay Lerner <i>Pygmalion</i> by George Bernard Shaw
<b>Produced by</b>	Jack L. Warner
<b>Starring</b>	Audrey Hepburn Rex Harrison Stanley Holloway Wilfrid Hyde-White Gladys Cooper Jeremy Brett Theodore Bikel
<b>Cinematography</b>	Harry Stradling
<b>Edited by</b>	William H. Ziegler
<b>Music by</b>	Frederick Loewe
<b>Production company</b>	Warner Bros.
<b>Distributed by</b>	Warner Bros. <sup>[a]</sup>
<b>Release date</b>	October 21, 1964 <sup>[2]</sup>
<b>Running time</b>	173 minutes <sup>[3]</sup>
<b>Country</b>	United States
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Budget</b>	\$17 million <sup>[2]</sup>
<b>Box office</b>	\$72.7 million <sup>[2]</sup>

Aspect Ratio: 2.20 : 12.35 : 1(35 mm version)

## Title: Storyline

In London, Professor Henry Higgins, a scholar of phonetics, believes that one's accent determines a person's prospects in society ("Why Can't the English?"). At the Covent Garden fruit-and-vegetable market one evening, he listens to Eliza Doolittle, a young flower seller with a strong Cockney accent, and makes notes. This causes others to suspect he is a "tec". When Eliza protests that she has done nothing wrong, she asks Colonel Hugh Pickering, himself a phonetics expert, to confirm this. Pickering and Higgins are delighted to become acquainted; in fact, Pickering had come from India just to meet Higgins. Higgins boasts he could teach even someone like Eliza to speak so well he could pass her off as a duchess at an embassy ball. Eliza wants to work in a flower shop, but her accent makes that impossible ("Wouldn't It Be Lovely"). The following morning, Eliza shows up at Higgins's home, seeking lessons. Pickering is intrigued and offers to cover all the attendant expenses if Higgins succeeds. Higgins agrees and describes how women ruin lives ("I'm an Ordinary Man").

Eliza's father, Alfred P. Doolittle, a dustman, learns of his daughter's new residence ("With a Little Bit of Luck"). He shows up at Higgins's house three days later, ostensibly to protect his daughter's virtue, but in reality to extract some money from Higgins, and is bought off with £5. Higgins is impressed by the man's honesty, his natural gift for language, and especially his brazen lack of morals. Higgins recommends Alfred to a wealthy American who is interested in morality.

Eliza endures Higgins's demanding teaching methods and harsh treatment ("Just You Wait"), while the servants feel both annoyed with the noise as well as pity for Higgins ("Servants' Chorus"). She makes no progress, but just as she, Higgins, and Pickering are about to give up, Eliza finally "gets it" ("The Rain in Spain"); she instantly begins to speak with an impeccable upper-class accent, and is overjoyed at Higgins having danced with her ("I Could Have Danced All Night").

As a trial run, Higgins takes her to Ascot Racecourse ("Ascot Gavotte"), where she makes a good impression initially, only to shock everyone by a sudden lapse into vulgar Cockney while cheering on a horse. Higgins is amused. There, she meets Freddy Eynsford-Hill, a young upper-class man who becomes infatuated with her ("On the Street Where You Live").

Higgins then takes Eliza to an embassy ball, where she dances with a foreign prince. Zoltan Karpathy, a Hungarian trained by Higgins, watches and listens, and declares she is a Hungarian princess.

Afterward, Eliza's hard work is ignored, with all the praise going to Higgins ("You Did It"). This and his callous treatment of her, especially his indifference to her future, causes her to walk out on him, but not before she throws his slippers at him, leaving him mystified by her ingratitude ("Just You Wait [Reprise]"). Outside, Freddy is waiting ("On the Street Where You Live [Reprise]") and greets Eliza, who is irritated by him as all he does is talk ("Show Me"). She tries to return to her old life, but finds that she no longer fits in. She meets her father, who has been left a large fortune by the wealthy American to whom Higgins had recommended him, and is resigned to marrying Eliza's stepmother. Alfred feels that Higgins has ruined him, lamenting that he is now bound by "middle-class morality" ("Get Me to the Church On Time"). Eliza eventually visits Higgins's mother, who is outraged at her son's behaviour.

The next day, Higgins finds Eliza gone and searches for her ("A Hymn to Him"), eventually finding her at his mother's house. He attempts to talk her into coming back to him. He becomes angered when she announces that she is going to marry Freddy and become Karpathy's assistant ("Without You"). He goes home, predicting that she will come crawling back. However, he comes to the realization that she has become important to him ("I've Grown Accustomed to Her Face"). He turns on his gramophone and listens to her voice. When she shows up, Higgins nonchalantly asks, "Eliza, where the devil are my slippers?" [Wiki](#)

Two unpopular teenagers, Gary Wallace and Wyatt Donnelly, fail at all attempts to be accepted by their peers. Their desperation to be liked leads them to "create" a woman via their computer. Their living, breathing creation is a gorgeous woman, Lisa, whose purpose is to boost their confidence level by putting them into situations which require them to act like men. On their road to becoming accepted, they encounter many hilarious obstacles, which gives the movie an overall sense of silliness. [MDb](#)

Note: Reference Only – Not available for loan or Sale – Private Collection

# Cast

Audrey Hepburn as Eliza Doolittle  
Rex Harrison as Professor Henry Higgins  
Stanley Holloway as Alfred P. Doolittle  
Wilfrid Hyde-White as Colonel Hugh Pickering  
Gladys Cooper as Mrs. Higgins  
Jeremy Brett as Freddy Eynsford-Hill  
Theodore Bikel as Zoltan Karpathy  
Mona Washbourne as Mrs. Pearce, Higgins' housekeeper  
Isobel Elsom as Mrs. Eynsford-Hill  
John Holland as the Butler

## Uncredited:

John Alderson as Jamie  
Marjorie Bennett as Cockney with pipe  
Betty Blythe as Lady at the ball  
Walter Burke as Cockney bystander telling Eliza about Higgins taking notes about her  
Henry Daniell as the British Ambassador (in his last film role)  
Charles Fredericks as Edward VII in Eliza's fantasy (only in the film version, not in the CD version)  
Jack Greening as George, the bartender  
Lillian Kemble-Cooper as Female Ambassador (in yellow dress) at the ball  
Queenie Leonard as Cockney bystander  
Moyna Macgill as Lady Boxington  
Philo McCullough as Ball Guest  
John McLiam as Harry  
Alan Napier as Gentleman who escorts Eliza to the Queen of Transylvania  
Barbara Pepper as Doolittle's dancing partner[6]  
Olive Reeves-Smith as Mrs. Hopkins  
Baroness Rothschild as the Queen of Transylvania  
Grady Sutton as Ball Guest

## Parental Guidance

### Certification

Argentina- Atp, Australia-G, Brazil-Livre, Canada-PGvideo rating, Finland-S, France-Tous publics, Iceland-L, India-U, Italy-T, Japa-G2015, Malaysia-U, Mexico-B, Netherlands-AL, New Zealand-G, Nigeria-G, Norwa-7, Poland-12TV rating, Portugal-M/6, Saudi Arabia-G, South Korea-All, Spain- 14ICAA, Sweden-Btl11DVD rating, Taiwan-0+, Turkey-7+self-applied, United Kingdom-U, United States-G1970, certificate #20570Approved1964, certificate #20570, West Germany-12

**Sex & Nudity** –None **Violence & Gore**- None, **Profanity-Mild Alcohol, drugs & Smoking** - Mild, **Frightening & Intense Scenes** –None

## Soundtrack

"Overture" – played by orchestra  
"Why Can't the English?" – performed by Rex Harrison, Wilfrid Hyde-White and Audrey Hepburn  
"Wouldn't It Be Lovely?" – performed by Audrey Hepburn (dubbed by Marni Nixon) and chorus  
"An Ordinary Man" – performed by Rex Harrison  
"With a Little Bit of Luck" – performed by Stanley Holloway, John Alderson, John McLiam, and chorus  
"Just You Wait" – sung by Audrey Hepburn (partially dubbed by Nixon) and Charles Fredericks  
"Servants Chorus" – sung by Mona Washbourne and chorus  
"The Rain in Spain" – performed by Rex Harrison, Wilfrid Hyde-White, and Audrey Hepburn (partially dubbed by Nixon)  
"I Could Have Danced All Night" – performed by Audrey Hepburn (dubbed by Nixon), Mona Washbourne and chorus  
"Ascot Gavotte" – sung by chorus  
"Ascot Gavotte (Reprise)" – sung by chorus  
"On the Street Where You Live" – sung by Jeremy Brett (dubbed by Bill Shirley)  
"Intermission" – played by orchestra  
"Transylvanian March" – played by orchestra  
"Embassy Waltz" – played by orchestra  
"You Did It" – performed by Rex Harrison, Wilfrid Hyde-White, and chorus  
"Just You Wait (Reprise)" – sung by Audrey Hepburn  
"On the Street Where You Live" (reprise) – sung by Jeremy Brett (dubbed by Shirley)  
"Show Me" – performed by Audrey Hepburn (dubbed by Marni Nixon) and Jeremy Brett (dubbed by Shirley)  
"Wouldn't It Be Lovely" (reprise) – performed by Audrey Hepburn (dubbed by Marni Nixon) and chorus  
"Get Me to the Church on Time" – performed by Stanley Holloway, John Alderson, John McLiam, and chorus  
"A Hymn to Him (Why Can't A Woman Be More Like a Man?)" – performed by Rex Harrison and Wilfrid Hyde-White  
"Without You" – performed by Audrey Hepburn (dubbed by Nixon) and Rex Harrison  
"I've Grown Accustomed to Her Face" – performed by Rex Harrison  
"Finale" – played by orchestra

The partly-spoken delivery of the songs given by Harrison is a well-known example of sprechstimme.



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