

2025 64 Hour Film Festival Genres

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Prehistoric Comedy Disaster Film

Prehistoric Comedy:

The prehistoric comedy movie genre combines humor with the setting of prehistoric times, often featuring early humans, dinosaurs, and other ancient creatures in comical or exaggerated situations. These films take a lighthearted approach to the distant past, blending fictionalized versions of prehistoric life with modern comedic sensibilities. The genre typically focuses on the misadventures of characters from ancient times as they struggle with survival, societal norms, and interactions with wild animals, all while providing humor that appeals to contemporary audiences. While rooted in a prehistoric setting, these films often incorporate slapstick humor, absurd scenarios, and anachronistic jokes for comedic effect.

Prehistoric Comedy Films

The Croods

Ice Age

A Flintstones Movie

Year One

Dinosaur

Disaster:

The disaster movie genre focuses on large-scale catastrophic events, such as natural disasters (earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions) or man-made crises (nuclear explosions, space collisions), that threaten the survival of humanity or the world itself. These films often center around a group of characters as they struggle to survive and navigate the chaos caused by these devastating events. Themes of heroism, sacrifice, and the fragility of life are common, and the narrative usually includes intense action sequences, special effects, and moments of emotional depth as characters face impossible odds. Disaster movies tend to highlight both the physical and emotional challenges of dealing with global crises.

Disaster Films

Titanic

The Day After Tomorrow

Armageddon

2012

San Andreas

RULES AND REQUIREMENTS: YOUR FILM MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

Your film must combine a prehistoric setting (featuring cavemen, dinosaurs, or early human life) with comedic elements, while incorporating a disaster or crisis (such as a natural disaster, technological malfunction, or survival challenge) that drives the plot.

*Remember ALL FILMS MUST ADHERE TO CONTENT GUIDELINES and be family-friendly (G to PG-13)

Fantasy Heist Thriller

Fantasy:

The fantasy movie genre is characterized by stories set in imaginary worlds or universes where magic, mythical creatures, and supernatural events are integral parts of the narrative. These films often involve epic quests, heroes with extraordinary abilities, and the battle between good and evil. The genre allows for the exploration of themes such as destiny, morality, and the power of imagination, often blending elements of folklore, mythology, and legend. Fantasy movies transport viewers to magical realms where the impossible becomes possible, creating rich, visually stunning worlds full of wonder and adventure.

Fantasy Films

The Lord of the Rings

Harry Potter

Pan's Labyrinth

Stardust

The Chronicles of Narnia

Heist Thriller:

The heist thriller movie genre blends the high-stakes tension of a thrilling crime caper with the meticulous planning and execution of a heist. These films focus on the intricacies of executing a complex robbery, often featuring a team of skilled criminals, each with a specific role to play. The genre emphasizes suspense, fast-paced action, and twists, as the heist unfolds and unexpected obstacles arise. Heist thrillers often explore themes of betrayal, loyalty, and the consequences of crime, creating a gripping atmosphere where the characters must outwit law enforcement, rivals, and even each other to achieve their goal.

Heist Films

Ocean's Eleven

The Italian Job

Heat

Inception

Inside Man

RULES AND REQUIREMENTS: YOUR FILM MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

Your film must blend a fantastical world (with magic, mythical creatures, or supernatural elements) with a high-stakes heist plot, where the characters use their unique abilities or enchanted tools to steal something valuable.

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Pirate Urban Comedy

Pirate:

The pirate movie genre revolves around swashbuckling adventures on the high seas, often featuring daring pirates, treasure hunts, and epic battles between rival crews. These films typically blend action, adventure, and romance, with a focus on charismatic, roguish characters who live by their own code of honor while seeking wealth, freedom, or revenge. The genre is known for its vibrant, often larger-than-life characters, dramatic sea battles, and exploration of themes such as loyalty, betrayal, and the quest for freedom. Pirate movies transport audiences to a world of adventure, danger, and the pursuit of treasure on the open ocean.

Pirate Films

Pirates of the Caribbean

Hook

Treasure Island

The Princess Bride

Urban Comedy:

The urban comedy movie genre focuses on humor derived from the dynamics of city life, often featuring characters navigating the challenges and quirks of living in an urban environment. These films highlight cultural, social, and economic issues within a city setting, using comedy to explore relationships, personal aspirations, and everyday struggles. The genre frequently incorporates elements of street culture, slang, and diverse characters, often reflecting on the contrasts between different social classes and communities. Urban comedies blend relatable humor with the fast-paced, sometimes chaotic energy of city living, offering both entertainment and a glimpse into urban life.

Urban Comedy Films

Friday

Barbershop

The Wash

Scary Movie

Girls Trip

RULES AND REQUIREMENTS: YOUR FILM MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

Your film must merge the classic pirate genre with a modern city setting, showcasing inventive pirate characters navigating contemporary urban life while using comedic elements rooted in both pirate lore and urban culture.

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Supernatural Historical Drama

Supernatural:

The supernatural movie genre explores phenomena beyond the natural world, featuring elements such as ghosts, spirits, demons, or otherworldly forces that defy logic and science. These films often blur the line between the known and the unknown, creating tension and suspense as characters encounter mysterious, unexplainable events. Supernatural movies typically explore themes of life after death, fate, and the boundaries between reality and the supernatural, often incorporating horror or mystery elements. They offer a sense of wonder and unease, as characters navigate eerie or otherworldly situations.

Supernatural Films

The Sixth Sense

Ghost

The Others

Beetlejuice

The Conjuring

Historical Drama:

The historical drama movie genre focuses on real events, figures, and periods from history, often blending fact with fictionalized elements to create a compelling narrative. These films explore significant moments in history, such as wars, political movements, social upheaval, or the lives of influential historical figures, and often delve into the personal and emotional experiences of those involved. The genre is known for its rich, immersive settings, attention to historical detail, and exploration of themes like sacrifice, power, identity, and the impact of the past on the present. Historical dramas aim to provide insight into both the grand scope of history and the intimate stories of individuals.

Historical Drama Films

Schindler's List

Braveheart

Lincoln

The King's Speech

12 Years a Slave

RULES AND REQUIREMENTS: YOUR FILM MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

Your film must weave real historical events with supernatural elements, blending period-accurate settings and characters with fantastical or eerie occurrences

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Time-Traveling Lawyer Drama

Time Travel:

The time travel movie genre explores the concept of traveling through time, often with characters navigating past or future events. These films frequently delve into the paradoxes and consequences of altering the timeline, such as changing history, meeting past or future versions of oneself, or confronting alternate realities. The genre combines elements of science fiction, fantasy, and sometimes drama, with a focus on the psychological and emotional impacts of time travel. Themes like fate, free will, and the nature of time are central to many time travel stories, which often present complex and thought-provoking scenarios.

Time Travel Films

Back to the Future
The Terminator
Looper
Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure
Edge of Tomorrow

Lawyer Drama:

The lawyer drama movie genre focuses on the legal profession, often depicting courtroom battles, ethical dilemmas, and complex legal cases. These films center on lawyers who are faced with challenging situations that test their moral integrity, intellect, and legal skills. The genre explores themes such as justice, corruption, and the tension between personal beliefs and professional duties. Lawyer dramas often feature intense legal proceedings, emotional conflicts, and moments of personal growth as the characters navigate the intricacies of the law and its impact on the lives of their clients.

Lawyer Drama Films

A Few Good Men
To Kill a Mockingbird
The Verdict
My Cousin Vinny
The Lincoln Lawyer

RULES AND REQUIREMENTS: YOUR FILM MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

Your film must create a compelling narrative that combines the complexities of legal drama with the intriguing mechanics of time travel, ensuring that both elements are essential to the plot

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Summer Spy Camp Mystery

Spy:

The spy movie genre revolves around espionage, covert operations, and the world of secret agents, often featuring characters who work for intelligence agencies to thwart global threats. These films are known for their high-stakes action, sophisticated gadgets, and intense intrigue as spies navigate a world of deception, betrayal, and hidden agendas. The genre often explores themes of loyalty, identity, and the moral complexities of espionage, with protagonists who must balance personal lives with dangerous missions. Spy movies are known for their fast-paced plots, thrilling chases, and international settings, offering a glimpse into a world of secrets and high-level intelligence.

Spy Films

James Bond

Mission: Impossible

The Bourne Identity

Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy

Kingsman: The Secret Service

Mystery:

The mystery movie genre focuses on a central puzzle or crime that needs to be solved, often revolving around detectives or amateur sleuths who work to uncover the truth. These films are driven by suspense, clues, and red herrings, with the narrative typically involving a search for answers to an unexplained event or series of events. The genre plays with the audience's expectations, gradually revealing information while keeping the identity of the perpetrator or the solution to the mystery hidden until the final reveal. Mystery movies explore themes of perception, justice, and the complexities of human nature, offering a compelling mix of intrigue and deduction.

Mystery Films

Se7en

The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo

Knives Out

Murder on the Orient Express

Chinatown

RULES AND REQUIREMENTS: YOUR FILM MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

Your film must be set at a summer camp where a group of young spies uncovers a hidden mystery, featuring clues, deception, and a twist ending.

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Paranormal Buddy Comedy

Paranormal:

The paranormal movie genre revolves around supernatural phenomena, such as ghosts, spirits, demons, or other unexplained occurrences that defy the laws of nature. These films often create a sense of unease or fear, as characters encounter forces beyond their understanding or control. The genre frequently explores themes of life after death, hauntings, curses, and the battle between good and evil, blending elements of horror, suspense, and mystery. Paranormal movies engage with the unknown, evoking both terror and curiosity as characters face the eerie and the unexplained.

Paranormal Films

The Sixth Sense
Paranormal Activity
The Conjuring
Insidious
The Others

Buddy Comedy:

The buddy comedy movie genre centers on the comedic dynamics between two distinct characters, often with contrasting personalities, who form an unlikely partnership. These films typically follow the pair as they embark on a shared adventure or face challenges, with their differences creating humor and driving the plot. The genre thrives on the development of the relationship between the characters, showcasing moments of friendship, miscommunication, and teamwork. The humor arises from their interactions, with the characters often learning valuable life lessons along the way.

Buddy Comedy Films

Lethal Weapon
The Heat
Superbad
21 Jump Street
Dumb and Dumber

RULES AND REQUIREMENTS: YOUR FILM MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

Your film must combine supernatural elements with comedic interactions between two distinct characters who navigate bizarre, otherworldly situations together.

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Unemployed Supervillain Mockumentary

Supervillain:

The supervillain movie genre focuses on characters who possess extraordinary abilities or intelligence and use them for evil purposes, often posing a threat to society, superheroes, or entire civilizations. These films explore the motivations behind the villain's actions, offering backstories that delve into their complex personalities, ideologies, and ambitions. While superheroes typically embody the forces of good, supervillains challenge the status quo, bringing themes of power, corruption, and moral ambiguity to the forefront. The genre often features epic battles, high-stakes conflict, and the villain's pursuit of world domination, revenge, or chaos.

Supervillain Films

The Dark Knight

The Incredibles

Joker

Avengers: Age of Ultron

Venom

Mockumentary:

The mockumentary movie genre is a satirical or comedic form of filmmaking that mimics the style of a documentary while presenting fictional events or exaggerated characters. These films often use the documentary format—complete with interviews, voiceovers, and "real-life" footage—to tell absurd, humorous, or often outlandish stories, blurring the lines between reality and fiction. The mockumentary genre is known for its dry humor, awkward interactions, and self-aware tone, often highlighting the absurdity of the subject matter. This format allows filmmakers to explore a wide range of topics, from fictional bands to quirky social issues, with a comedic twist.

Mockumentaries

The Office

Parks and Rec

This is Spinal Tap

Best in Show

What We Do in the Shadows

RULES AND REQUIREMENTS: YOUR FILM MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

Your film must be a documentary-style narrative that humorously explores the struggles and daily life of a former supervillain who is now out of work.

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Zombie Romantic Comedy

Zombie:

The zombie movie genre revolves around a post-apocalyptic scenario in which the dead rise from their graves, typically reanimated as flesh-eating creatures that threaten humanity's survival. These films often focus on small groups of survivors trying to escape or fight off the relentless hordes of zombies, navigating both the physical danger and the emotional toll of living in such a world. Themes of survival, human morality, and societal collapse are central to the genre, with the zombies often serving as a symbol of uncontrollable forces or the breakdown of civilization. While traditionally horror, zombie movies can also explore action, drama, and even dark comedy.

Zombie Films

Night of the Living Dead

28 Days Later

Dawn of the Dead

World War Z

Shaun of the Dead

Romantic Comedy:

The romantic comedy movie genre blends romance and humor, focusing on the blossoming relationship between two characters as they navigate a series of amusing and often awkward situations. These films typically center around misunderstandings, quirky encounters, and the challenges of love, often set against light-hearted or charming backdrops. The genre explores themes of love, destiny, and personal growth, with characters frequently learning valuable lessons about themselves and relationships. Romantic comedies offer feel-good moments, combining heartwarming romance with plenty of laughs, leading to a satisfying, often happy ending.

Romantic Comedy Films

When Harry Met Sally

The Proposal

10 Things I Hate About You

Notting Hill

Crazy, Stupid, Love

RULES AND REQUIREMENTS: YOUR FILM MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

Your film must blend elements of romance and humor within a zombie apocalypse setting.

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Vampire Family Vacation

Vampire:

The vampire movie genre centers around stories involving vampires, immortal beings that feed on the blood of the living. These films explore themes of immortality, desire, loneliness, and the supernatural, often depicting the tension between vampires and humans, or the struggle of vampires with their own morality and need to survive. Vampires are typically portrayed as powerful and enigmatic, with unique abilities such as enhanced strength, immortality, and hypnosis, but are also vulnerable to specific weaknesses like sunlight or wooden stakes. The genre spans horror, romance, and action, often blending dark, gothic atmospheres with exploration of the human condition.

Vampire Films

Dracula
Interview with the Vampire
The Lost Boys
Let the Right One In
Twilight

Family Vacation:

The family vacation movie genre focuses on the comedic and heartwarming adventures of families as they embark on vacations or trips, often encountering a series of humorous or chaotic events along the way. These films typically explore the dynamics of family life, highlighting both the challenges and joys of spending extended time together in new environments. Whether the family is dealing with travel mishaps, bonding moments, or unexpected surprises, the genre emphasizes themes of love, patience, and togetherness, with plenty of laughs along the journey. Family vacation movies offer a mix of lighthearted humor and valuable life lessons.

Family Vacation Films

National Lampoon's Vacation
The Parent Trap
Cheaper by the Dozen
RV
A Goofy Movie

RULES AND REQUIREMENTS: YOUR FILM MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

Your film must focus on a vampire family's humorous and dramatic experiences while on a vacation.

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Fairy Tale Conspiracy Thriller

Fairy Tale:

The fairy tale movie genre is characterized by stories that are often set in magical or fantastical worlds, where mythical creatures, enchanted objects, and extraordinary events drive the plot. These films typically focus on themes like good versus evil, the triumph of virtue, and the transformation of characters through challenges or quests. They often feature princesses, princes, witches, fairies, and magical beings, with an emphasis on moral lessons or the pursuit of a happily ever after. Fairy tale movies may be adaptations of classic stories or entirely original tales.

Fairy Tale Films

Cinderella
Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs
Beauty and the Beast
Shrek
The Princess Bride

Conspiracy Thriller:

The conspiracy thriller movie genre revolves around characters uncovering hidden, often sinister plots that involve powerful individuals or organizations manipulating events behind the scenes. These films are driven by suspense, mystery, and a sense of paranoia, as protagonists work to expose the truth while facing overwhelming opposition. The tension often stems from the feeling that no one can be trusted, and the stakes are high, with the characters risking their lives to unravel complex webs of deceit. Themes of political intrigue, government cover-ups, and corporate corruption are commonly explored.

Conspiracy Thriller Films

Shutter Island
Inception
The Bourne Identity
Minority Report
V for Vendetta

RULES AND REQUIREMENTS: YOUR FILM MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

Your film must combine the whimsical elements of a traditional fairy tale with a dark, mysterious plot involving hidden agendas, deceit, and a sense of tension or danger.

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