

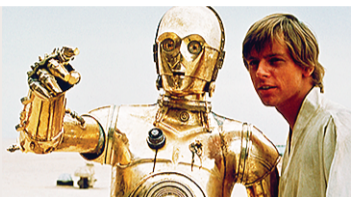
# SURROUNDED BY THE FORCE

By Charles Apple | THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

The original “Star Wars” movie was released in U.S. theaters 45 years ago this summer. There’s only one way to celebrate: Make sure you’ve watched — and rewatched — every major onscreen incarnation of that galaxy far, far away ...

George Lucas’ original film cost \$11 million but caught Hollywood off guard by grossing \$775.4 million worldwide — that’s \$3.6 billion in today’s dollars.

**Star Wars**  
MOTION PICTURE  
Released:  
**May 25, 1977**



Most of the “Star Wars” cast returned for this CBS TV special that’s regarded as truly awful. Lucas has pretty much disowned it, but copies can be found online.

**Star Wars Holiday Special**  
TV SPECIAL  
Broadcast:  
**Nov. 17, 1978**



A darker film than the original, the big plot twist at the end shocked fans and sent them buying tickets to see it again and again.

**The Empire Strikes Back**  
MOTION PICTURE  
Released:  
**May 21, 1980**



Lucas wrapped up his original trilogy by making sure most of the good guys win and most of the bad guys meet their respective doom.

**Return of the Jedi**  
MOTION PICTURE  
Released:  
**May 25, 1983**



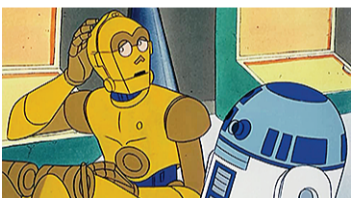
The nauseatingly cute teddy bear-like creatures from “Return of the Jedi” get the Saturday morning treatment for 26 episodes over two seasons.

**Ewoks**  
ANIMATED SERIES  
Aired:  
**Sept. 7, 1985-Dec. 13, 1986**



The movie voice of C-3PO, Anthony Daniels, also performed in this cartoon show about the two robotic pals. The series lasted only 13 episodes and one special.

**Droids**  
ANIMATED SERIES  
Aired:  
**Sept. 7, 1985-June 7, 1986**



After a long break, Lucas again visited the “Star Wars” galaxy with a prequel trilogy. Fans who had accepted Ewoks were revolted by Jar Jar Binks.

**The Phantom Menace**  
MOTION PICTURE  
Released:  
**May 19, 1999**



Anakin Skywalker grows up, flexes his Force powers and becomes a target for dark powers. The downsides: Subpar script work and poor acting by Hayden Christensen.

**Attack of the Clones**  
MOTION PICTURE  
Released:  
**May 16, 2002**



This series by the Cartoon Network’s Genndy Tartakovsky — of “Dexter’s Laboratory” and “Samurai Jack” fame — ran for 25 episodes over three seasons.

**The Clone Wars**  
ANIMATED SERIES  
Released:  
**Aug. 15, 2003-March 25, 2005**



Still a Jedi apprentice and torn between allegiances, Anakin makes the choices that set him on the path to becoming the original trilogy’s fearsome bad guy.

**Revenge of the Sith**  
MOTION PICTURE  
Released:  
**May 19, 2005**



Lucas rebooted the Cartoon Network series as a CIV.-animated adventure that would run for 121 episodes over six seasons. Another 12 episodes were made in 2020.

**The Clone Wars**  
ANIMATED SERIES  
Aired:  
**Oct. 3, 2008-March 7, 2014**  
Resumed: **2020**



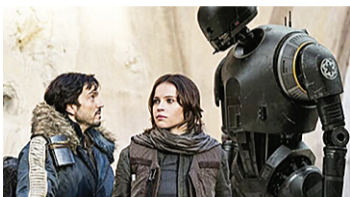
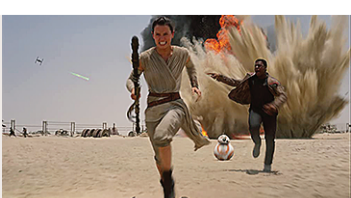
Disney’s first production after buying the franchise from Lucas in 2012 was set between the prequel movies and the original trilogy. It ran for 75 episodes over four seasons.

**Rebels**  
ANIMATED SERIES  
Aired:  
**Aug. 11, 2014-March 5, 2018**



With Lucas out of the picture and Disney in charge, an all-new cast of heroes picks up the fight against an empire that just loves building oversized space stations.

**The Force Awakens**  
MOTION PICTURE  
Released:  
**Dec. 18, 2015**



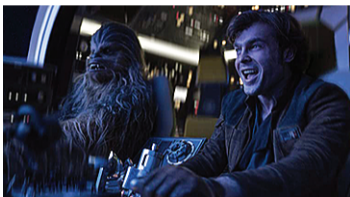
**Rogue One**  
MOTION PICTURE  
Released:  
**Dec. 16, 2016**

This stand-alone film tells the story of the stolen plans to the Empire’s Death Star base — which figured prominently in the plot of the original “Star Wars.”



**The Last Jedi**  
MOTION PICTURE  
Released:  
**Dec. 15, 2017**

Young Rey seeks the aid of a retired Luke Skywalker in defeating the First Order and, in particular, a young bad guy with whom she seems mysteriously linked.



**Solo**  
MOTION PICTURE  
Released:  
**May 25, 2018**

Ron Howard directed this prequel telling how a young Han Solo became big-time smuggler and con artist, met Chewbacca and came to own the Millennium Falcon.



**Resistance**  
ANIMATED SERIES  
Aired:  
**Dec. 10, 2018-Jan. 25, 2020**

This series about a resistance pilot-turned-spy is set in the middle of the final three films. The series ran for 40 episodes over two seasons.



**The Mandalorian**  
TV SERIES  
Aired:  
**Nov. 12, 2019-Present**

A bounty hunter is hired to retrieve a young creature powerful with the Force but then goes on the run from the empire. So far, 16 episodes have been made.



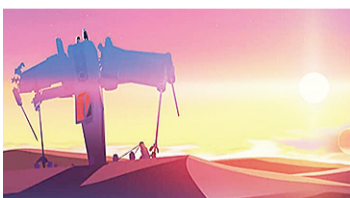
**The Rise of Skywalker**  
MOTION PICTURE  
Released:  
**Dec. 20, 2019**

The finale of the third “Star Wars” trilogy was criticized by fans for abandoning many of the storylines set up in the first two films, all for a sappy ending.



**The Bad Batch**  
ANIMATED SERIES  
Aired:  
**May 4, 2021-Present**

The series focuses on an elite squad of clone troopers — from the Clone Wars — who have genetic mutations. Season 1 consisted of 16 episodes.



**Visions**  
ANIMATED SERIES  
Aired:  
**Sept. 22, 2021**

A variety of Japanese animators contributed nine half-hour stand-alone animated stories set at various points within the “Star Wars” universe.



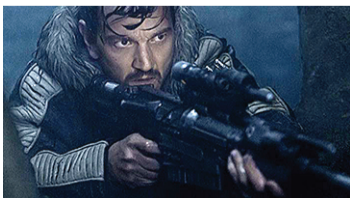
**The Book of Boba Fett**  
TV SERIES  
Aired:  
**Dec. 29, 2021-Feb. 8, 2022**

This spinoff of “The Mandalorian” follows the exploits of a bounty hunter thought to be killed in “Return of the Jedi.” It ran for seven episodes.



**Obi-Wan Kenobi**  
TV SERIES  
Planned debut:  
**May 27, 2022**

This highly anticipated series featuring Ewan McGregor will fill in some of the gaps between the prequel films and the original trilogy.



**Andor**  
TV SERIES  
Planned:  
**Mid-2022**

Diego Luna will both produce and star in the return of his character from “Rogue One,” Cassian Andor, in this prequel series to that film.



**Ahsoka**  
TV SERIES  
Planned:  
**Probably in 2023**

In another spinoff of “The Mandalorian,” Rosario Dawson will return as Ahsoka Tano — Anakin Skywalker’s former apprentice before he turned to the dark side of the Force.



**Rogue Squadron**  
MOTION PICTURE  
Planned release:  
**Dec. 22, 2023**

“Wonder Woman” director Patty Jenkins says her film will be based strongly on the popular “Rogue Squadron” series of video games and novels.