

# The hundred best films of all times

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## How did I choose

I looked at Google for the 1000 best films of all times according to the critics (google it and you will find the list). A big average of many polls by many critics. I replaced films I disagreed with. Near every film I say its ranking in the 1000 films critics list. Also the place at the directors Sight and Sound poll from 2022. The most important poll.

The critics poll, stand for the critics best 1000 films poll. The SS directors poll, stands for the directors best 100 films in the Sight and Sound poll. As a fair warning, I tell casual viewers to avoid certain films.

## 1 Citizen Kane. Orson Welles. USA. 1941

Critics poll place 1.

SS poll directors: Place 2

Casual viewers: Give it a chance.

Art cinema lovers: Watch. If you want to understand, read about it.

Story: the rise and fall of a news mogul

## 2 81/2. Fellini. Italy, 1963

Critics poll place 7.

SS poll directors place 6.

Casual viewers: Avoid.

Art cinema lovers: It will not be easy.

Story: A director has a writers block

## 3 The Seventh Seal. Bergman. Sweden, 1957

Critics poll place 82.

SS poll directors place 72.

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: It will not be easy.

Story: A knight returns from the crusades and plays chess with death

#### **4 Dr Strangelove. Kubrick. USA, 1964. (Done in England)**

Critics poll place 66.

SS poll directors place 46

Casual viewers: Give it a shot

Art cinema lovers: Watch.

Story: A crazy general orders to nuke the USSR

#### **5 Chinatown. Polanski. USA, 1974**

Critics place 70.

SS poll directors place 72

Casual viewers: Give it a chance

Art cinema lovers: Watch.

Story: A private detective is caught in a web of lies.

#### **6 Its a wonderful life. Capra USA, 1946**

Critics poll 81

SS poll directors not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Watch

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A man decides to kill himself. God sends help.

#### **7 Andrei Rublev. Tarkovsky. USSR, 1968**

Critics poll place 27.

SS poll directors place 26

Casual viewers: Avoid.

Art cinema lovers: Give it a try.

Story: A painter travels 15 century Russia

#### **8 Sunrise. Murnau. Germany. (Done in the USA). 1927**

Critics poll place 8

SS poll directors place 33

Casual viewers Avoid

Art cinema lovers: A silent film. It will not be easy.

Story: A marriage couple has a serious crisis.

## **9 The Godfather Part 2. Coppola. USA, 1974**

Critics poll place 31

SS poll directors place 26.

Casual viewers: A bit long. Give it a try.

Art cinema lovers: Watch.

A mafia head turns paranoid

## **10 The life of Brian. Monty python. England, 1979**

Critics poll place 505

SS poll directors poll not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Watch

Art cinema lovers: Watch

A man is mistaken to be the messiah.

## **11 Ugusto. Kenji Mizoguchi. Japan, 1953**

Critics poll place 57

SS poll directors not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: It will not be easy

Story: Two men enlist in the army against the wish of their people.

## **12 Rashomon. Kurosawa. Japan, 1951**

Critics poll place 24

SS poll directors place 20

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: Five people give conflicting accounts of the same story

### **13 Tokyo Story. Ozu Japan, 1953**

Critics poll place 4

SS poll directors place 4

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: An elderly couple visits their children in Tokyo

### **14 Au Hasard Balthazar. Bresson. France, 1966**

Critics poll place 29

SS poll directors place 37

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: The story of an abused donkey

### **15 Vertigo. Hitchcock. USA, 1958**

Critics place 2

SS poll directors place 6

Casual viewers: Watch

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A man falls madly in love with a cold blonde

### **16 Pather Pancheli. Satyajit Ray. India, 1955**

Critics poll place 44

SS poll directors place 22

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: It will not be easy

Story: The life of a poor family in India

### **17 The rules of the game. Renoir. France, 1938**

Critics poll place 5

SS poll directors place 38

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: Rich people spend the weekend in the same house.

## **18 Seven Samurai, Kurosawa. Japan, 1954**

Critics poll place 10

SS poll directors place 14

Casual viewers: you will like the action scenes but maybe not the rest

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A village hires seven Samurai to help them against bandits

## **19 L' Atalante. Vigo. France, 1934**

Critics poll place 20

SS poll directors place 46

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

The love of a recently married couple

## **20 Blade Runner Ridley Scott USA, 2007 Final Cut**

Critics poll place 41

SS poll directors place 62

Casual viewers: Give it a try

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: An expert killer has to take out replicants (robots)

## **21 The Shining. Kubrick. USA, 1980. (Made in England)**

Critics poll place 86

SS poll directors not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Watch if you do not mind horror films

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A husband turn insane in a secluded hotel

## **22 Wild Strawberries. Bergman, Sweden 1957**

Critics poll place 61

SS poll directors place 72

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A harsh stubborn doctor drives by car to get a life achievement award

## **23 Wings of desire. Winders. Germany, 1987**

Critics poll place 213

SS poll directors not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: It will not be easy

Story: An angel decides to turn human.

## **24 Come and See. Klimov. USSR, 1985**

Critics poll place 111

SS poll directors not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Very cruel film. But life changing

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: The life of a boy in WWII

## **25 The Ascent. Shepitko. USSR, 1977**

Critics poll place 285

SS poll directors place 72

Casual viewers: A very cruel film. It is worth it

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: Russian soldiers are caught by Nazis

## **26 Le Jette. Chris Marker. France, 1962**

Critics poll place 95

SS poll directors place 35

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: Time travel

## **27 Stalker. Tarkovsky. USSR, 1979**

Critics poll place 47

SS poll directors place 28

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A guide leads two man into a room that can make wishes come true.

## **28 Bicycle thieves. De-Sica. Italy, 1948**

Critics poll place 47

SS poll directors place 20

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: a man searches for bicycles he need for his work.

## **29 The Third Man. Carol Reed. England Done in Vienna), 1946**

Critics poll place 55

SS poll directors not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Watch

Art cinema lovers: Watch.

Story: A writer of westerns comes to Vienna to attend the funeral of his childhood friend.

## **30 Sunset Boulevard. Wilder. USA, 1950**

Critics poll 46

SS poll directors not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Watch

Art cinema lovers: Watch.

A crazy ex actress thinks she is still a star.

## **31 Apocalypse now. Coppola. USA, 1979**

Critics poll place 13

SS poll directors place 18

Casual viewers: Watch

Art cinema lovers: Watch.

A colonel loses his mind during the Vietnam war.

## **32 Landscape in the Mist. Angelopoulos. Greece, 1988**

Critics poll place 479

SS poll directors not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch.

Story: Two children go looking for their missing father.

### **33 Sansho the Bailiff. Kenji Mizoguchi, 1954**

Critics poll place 84

SS poll directors not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch.

Story: Two children are separated from their mother and become slaves

### **34 Breathless. Godard. France, 1959**

Critics poll place 19

SS poll directors place 38

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: It will not be easy

Story: The story of a French criminal and his American girlfriend

### **35 Touch of evil. Welles. USA. 1958**

Critics poll place 45

SS poll directors not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Give it a chance

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A battle between Mexican and American cops.

### **36 The Deer Hunter. Cimino. 1978. USA**

Critics poll place 167

SS poll directors not in the first 100

Casual viewers: If you don't mind cruel films

Art cinema lovers: Watch.

Story: The story of three soldiers before during and after the Vietnam war.

### **37 The Conformist, Bernardo Bertolucci. Italy, 1970**

Critics poll place 83

SS poll directors place 93

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: The fear of a man under a fascist regime.



### **38 Nashville. Altman. USA, 1975**

Critics poll place 90

SS poll directors not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: Many are trying to make it as singers in the town of Nashville.

### **39 The Cabinet of Dr Caligari. Wiene. Germany, 1921**

Critics poll place 265

SS poll directors not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A story about a serial killer and a sleep walker who can tell the future.

### **40 La Dolce Vita. Fellini. Italy, 1960**

Critics poll place 34

SS directors poll directors Place 35

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch. But in two days. Too long.

Story: A yellow journalist walks Rome in the time of the economic miracle.

### **41 L'Aventura. Antonioni. Italy, 1960**

Critics poll place 37

SS directors poll directors Place 38

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: It will no be easy

Story: A lady disappears. Her boyfriend and another lady fail to look for her.

### **42 Beau travail. Claire Denis. France, 1978**

Critics poll place 51

SS directors poll place 14

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: In the French army, a new soldier comes, and one of the officers is jealous of him.

### **43 Cleo from Five to Seven. Angès Varda. France, 1962**

Critics poll place 97

SS directors poll directors Place 52

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: An hour and a half in the life of a woman, in real time.

### **44 The Mother and the Whore. Jean Eustache. France, 1973**

Critics poll place 105

SS directors poll directors not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch in two days. Very long.

Story: The relation of a man who constantly talks and two women

### **45 The Contempt. Godard. France, 1963**

Critics poll place 42

SS directors poll directors place 46

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A couple drifts apart

### **46 A Clockwork Orange. Kubrick. USA, 1971**

Critics poll place 106

SS directors not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Very violent. But many will enjoy it.

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A violent teen is subjected to a treatment that conditioned him against sex and violence.

### **47 Goodfellas. Scorsese. USA, 1990**

Critics poll place 64

SS directors place 28

Casual viewers: Watch

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A mafia film.

**48 The last man (A.K.A The last laugh). Murnau. Germany, 1925**

Critics poll place 204

Directors poll not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: it will not be easy

Story: A person who works at a hotel, loses his job.

**49 The house is black. Farrokhzad. Iran, 1963**

Critics poll place 232

SS directors poll not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Watch

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: Shots from a leper colony in Iran

**50 M The murderer among us. Lang. Germany, 1930.**

Critics poll place 54

SS directors poll not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: About a child serial killer.

**51 Casablanca. Curtis. USA, 1942**

Critics poll place 38

SS directors poll not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Watch

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A bitter man helps in world war two, a freedom fighter to get from Casablanca to the west.

**52 Once Upon a Time in the West. Leone Italy, 1968**

Critics poll place 95

SS directors place 46

Casual viewers: Watch

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A stranger playing an harmonica joins a notorious man, to protect a beautiful widow.

### **53 The raging Bull. Martin Scorsese. USA, 1980**

Critics poll place 35

SS directors poll place 22

Casual viewers: Give it a try

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: The true story of the boxer Jake LaMotta

### **54 Metropolis. Lang. Germany, 1925**

Critics poll place 67

SS directors poll place 67

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: About a dystopian future

### **55 400 Blows. Truffaut. France, 1960**

Critics poll place 50

SS directors poll place 33

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A child gets in trouble in school and with his parents

### **56 Nosferatu. Murnau. Germany, 1922**

Critics poll place 50

SS directors poll place 33

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: The first Dracula movie.

### **57 Greed. Von Stroheim. USA, 1924**

Critics poll place 113

SS directors poll not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Avoid  
Art cinema lovers: Watch  
Story: People loose their mind over golden coins.

## **58 The passion of Joan of Ark. Dreyer. France, 1928**

Critics poll place 21  
SS directors poll place 30  
Casual viewers: Avoid  
Art cinema lovers: Watch  
The story of the Saint French lady.

## **59 Psycho. Hitchcock. USA, 1990**

Critics poll place 28  
SS directors poll place 46  
Casual viewers: It is scary  
Art cinema lovers: Watch  
Story: A woman steals money and stays in a motel. She finds horror.

## **60 The night of the hunter. Laughton. USA, 1955**

Critics poll place 28  
SS directors poll place 46  
Casual viewers: It is scary  
Art cinema lovers: Watch  
Story: About a dangerous murderer and two children.

## **61 Fanny and Alexander. Bergman. Sweden, 1982**

Critics poll place 122  
SS directors poll place 52  
Casual viewers: Avoid  
Art cinema lovers: Watch  
Story: The father of two small children dies

## **62 Pickpocket. Bresson, France, 1959**

Critics poll place 89

SS directors poll place 52

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A criminal tries to find salvation.

## **63 Three colors red. Kieslovski. France, 1994**

Critics poll place 280

SS directors poll not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: The relationship between a model and a judge.

## **64 Blowup. Antonioni. Italy, 1966**

Critics poll place 124

SS directors poll not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A man suspect he saw a murder.

## **65 Children of Paradise. Carne. France, 1942**

Critics poll place 75

SS directors poll not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: About theater.

## **66 Viridiana. Buñuel. Spain, 1961**

Critics poll place 88

SS directors poll not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: a religious girl helps the poor. They are not grateful.

## **67 Playtime. Tati. France, 1967**

Critics poll place 40

SS directors poll not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A man walks a mechanical city.

## **68 Killer of sheep Killer. Charles Burnett. USA, 1978**

Critics poll place 144

SS directors poll not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: Poverty in the black community

## **69 Close-Up. Abbas Kiarostami. Iran, 1991**

Critics poll place 44

SS directors poll place 9

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A man impersonates a famous director.

## **70 Late spring. Ozu. Japan, 1956**

Critics poll place 53

SS directors poll place 62

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A couple deals with infidelity

## **71 The Wild Bunch, Peckinpah. 1969, USA**

Critics poll place 80

SS directors poll not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Give it a try

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: The story of aging cowboys.

## **72 A Day in the country. Renoir, France, 1946**

Critics poll place 125

SS directors poll not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Give it a try

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A city family visits the country

## **73 North by Northwest Hitchcock. USA, 1957**

Critics poll place 56

SS directors poll not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Watch

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: An espionage film

## **74 Blue Velvet. Lynch. USA, 1986**

Critics poll place 87

SS directors poll place 72

Casual viewers: Cruel

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A criminal kidnaps the child of a cabaret dancer.

## **75 The spirit of the beehive. Erice. Spain, 1973**

Critics poll place 112

SS directors poll place 72

Casual viewers: Give it a chance

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: The life of a 6 years old girl under a fascist regime

## **76 Aguirre, Wrath of God. Herzog, Germany, 1972**

Critics poll place 107

SS directors poll not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: Searching for El Dorado



## **77 There Will Be Blood. Paul Thomas Anderson. 2007, USA**

Critics poll place 107

SS directors poll not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: The story of a cruel oil mogul.

## **78 Le Samurai. Melville. France, 1976**

Critics poll place 220

SS directors poll not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Give it a try

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: The life of a professional assassin

## **79 Taste of cherry. Kiarostami. Iran, 1997**

Critics poll place 273

SS directors poll place 93

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A man want to kill himself

## **80 Ashes and diamonds. Wajda. Poland, 1959**

Critics poll place 238

SS directors poll not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A Polish soldier is ordered to kill a Russian soldier.

## **81 Ali Fear eats the Soul. Fassbinder. Germany, 1974**

Critics poll place 104

SS directors poll place 52

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A 65 old German woman marries a 25 years old man

## **82 Barton Fink. Cohen brothers. USA, 1991**

Critics poll place 580

SS directors poll not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Give it a try

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A play writer goes to write for the movies

## **83 Annie Hall. Allen. USA, 1978**

Critics poll place 110

SS directors poll not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Watch

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: The life and loves of a 40 years old Jewish man and his girlfriend, Annie Hall

## **84 La Strada. Fellini. Italy, 1954**

Critics poll place 73

SS directors poll place 38

Casual viewers: Watch

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A woman is sold to a brute

## **85 Germany hour zero. Rossellini. Italy (Done in German), 1946**

Critics poll place 233

SS poll directors not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch.

Story: A son is convinced by his Nazi teacher to kill his father.

## **86 A Moment of Innocence. Makhmalbaf Iran, 1996**

Critics poll place 500

SS poll directors not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch.

Story: Actors change the ending of a movie

## **87 Rocco and his brothers. Visconti. Italy, 1960**

Critics poll place 194

SS poll directors not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch.

Story: A family goes from the south to Milan

## **88 Ivan the terrible. Eisenstein. USSR, 1944**

Critics poll 251

SS directors poll not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: About a truly evil leader.

## **89 The treasure of Sierra Madre. Huston USA, 1948**

Critics poll 266

SS directors poll not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Give it a try

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: Looking for gold

## **90 Gertud. Dreyer. Denmark, 1964**

Critics poll 94

SS directors poll not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A woman believes in true love

## **91 Sherlock Holmes Jr. Keaton. USA, 1924**

Critics poll 101

SS directors poll not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A man dreams that he is a detective.

## **92 The red shoes. Powell Pressburger. 1948, England**

Critics poll 120

SS directors poll place 72

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A film about dancing

## **93 Forbidden Games. Clement 1952, France**

Critics poll 799

SS directors poll not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Give it a try

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: In world war two, two children build a per cemetery.

## **94 Letter from unknown woman. Max Ophuls France 1948, USA**

Critics poll 127

SS directors poll not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Watch

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A man fails to notice a woman until it is too late.

## **95 We all loved each other so much. Scola. Italy, 1974**

Critics poll 864

SS directors poll directors not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Watch

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: Three men fight for the same women

## **96 Rosemary's baby. Polansky. USA, 1969**

Critics poll place 175

SS directors poll directors not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A lady is tricked into baring the child of Satan.

## **97 Jules and Jim. Truffaut. 1963, France**

Critics poll place 98

SS directors poll directors not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Avoid

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: The loves of two men and a woman.

## **98 One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest. Forman. USA, 1975**

Critics poll 145

SS directors poll directors not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Give it a try

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A man fights an evil nurse in an asylum

## **99 The great dictator. Chaplin. USA, 1941**

Critics poll 214

SS directors poll directors not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Watch

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A parody on Hitler

## **100 Imitation of Life. Sirk 1959, USA**

Critics poll place 132

SS directors poll not in the first 100

Casual viewers: Watch

Art cinema lovers: Watch

Story: A daughter of a black maid doesn't recognize her own mother

## **Final remarks**

1. I should have put films from China. I couldn't decide which ones. So I left them out.
2. Directors with Three films: Kubrick, Hitchcock Bergman, Fellini, Antonioni.
3. Countries: USA 35 films. France 20 films. Italy 11 films. Germany 9 films. USSR 5 films. Japan 5 films. Iran 5 films. Sweden 3 films. England 3 films. Spain 2 films. Denmark 1 film. Poland one film
4. The best film of all time according to critics is a close race between Citizen Kane and Vertigo.

5. The best film of all times according to directors is 2001: A Space Odyssey by Kubrick.
6. The best director of all times according to critics is Hitchcock.
7. The best director according to the directors is Kubrick. Very slightly ahead of Tarkovsky. The third best is Fellini.
8. My 10 best directors ranked:
  - (a) Kubrick
  - (b) Welles
  - (c) Bergman
  - (d) Fellini
  - (e) Tarkovsky
  - (f) Hitchcock
  - (g) Murnau
  - (h) Kurosawa
  - (i) Ozu
  - (j) Polanski