Watch The Entire Marvel Universe In Chronological Order

In the beginning, characters such as the X-men (part of the X-men film series universe), Ghost Rider, Fantastic Four and others were sold as options to various studios to produce their own corresponding films. Therefore several studios own the rights to these various characters and they all lived in their own separate film universe.

Fans demanded continuity.

The Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU) was then created as a shared universe centered mainly on the characters portrayed in The Avengers, Iron Man, Hulk, Thor, Ant-Man Guardians of the Galaxy, Doctor Strange, and upcoming Spider-Man, Black Panther and Captain Marvel films.

Then came the new wave of Marvel Web/TV series connected to the MCU. Things got confusing really fast.

For the superhero film cinephile, comic movie connoisseur and comic-book film geek there has never been an official list of how to watch every Marvel film and TV show ever produced in the chronological order of events in which they happened. You’ll find plenty of Avengers-only (MCU) or X-Men-only (X-men film series universe) lists with none being a complete chronology.

So after putting in a ton of research and using a little creativity, I was able to arrange every Marvel film, series and short ever produced in an order based on the time their events take place. My sources are listed at the end and any corrections/questions please leave them in the comments. Let’s jump in.
Timeline

**BOLD = FILM  ITALIC = TV SERIES/SHORT  BLUE = NOTABLE EVENT**

**Captain America: The First Avenger** (2011 movie) takes place in the 1940s, during World War II. Trivia: There were two Captain America pilot episodes for an unproduced TV series in 1979.

*Marvel One-Shot: Agent Carter* – accompanied the *Iron Man 3* (2013 movie) Blu-ray release as a follow-up and spin-off to *Captain America: The First Avenger*. It takes place one year after the events of *The First Avenger*.

*Marvel’s Agent Carter (2015 series)* Season 1 takes place in 1946.

*Marvel’s Agent Carter (2016 season)* Season 2 takes place in 1947.

**X-Men: First Class** (2011 movie) Mostly takes place in the 1960’s around the Cuban Missile Crisis (1962).

**X-Men: Days of Future Past** (2014 movie) takes place mainly in 1973 (Wolverine travels back from 2023). This film reset the entire franchise as Wolverine changed the timeline. **X-Men: The Last Stand** (2006 movie) events were definitely erased and never happened, **X2** (2003 movie) events probably occurred somewhat differently, and the first **X-men** (2000 movie) events probably did occur. The majority of the events from **The Wolverine** (2013 movie) were likely erased. The earliest parts of **X-Men Origins** (2009 movie) did occur but the remaining story is erased from continuity. The entire **First Class** (2011 movie) and **Days of Future Past’s** 1970s events did occur. Assume everything prior to 1973 is the same but everything after has been erased and reset. This film essentially split the X-men franchise into two timelines – one where **Days of Future Past** occurs in the future after **The Last Stand** (2006 movie) and one where it occurs after **First Class**. Pretty confusing eh?

**X-Men Origins: Wolverine** (2009 movie) takes place partially in the 1800s, Vietnam War 1960s, in the mid-1970s around the time Wolverine becomes part of Weapon X Program, and also partially in the 1980s.

**Hulk** (2003 movie) explores the origins of Bruce Banner portraying Bruce through various actors at the ages of 2, 4, 5, 9, 16 years old and eventually an adult. There is no specific mention of
dates but one can assume this film takes place in the mid-to-late 70s and moves forward into the 80s, 90s etc as Bruce gets older. It doesn't matter much since its continuity was rebooted in 2008 to bring the Hulk franchise into the **MCU**.

*The Incredible Hulk* (1978 series) is the classic TV series starring Bill Bixby as David Banner based on the comic book version of Bruce Banner and Lou Ferrigno as the Hulk. The series ran on CBS from 1978 to 1982, therefore we can assume it takes place during that time. There were also several other made-for-TV movies based on the series made thereafter from 1977 through 1990 made as revival attempts of the original series.

**X-Men: Apocalypse** (2016 movie) — In the NEW timeline created by *Days of Future Past* (2014 movie), this is the chronological start of the X-men as a group after the events of *Days of Future Past* changed the timeline. So, therefore it takes place in 1983, ten years after.

**Howard the Duck** (1986 movie) takes place in 1986.


**The Fantastic Four** (1994 movie) an unreleased film but we can assume it takes place in 1994, you can still view it [online](#).

**Fantastic Four** (2015 movie) this film serves as a Continuity Reboot for the 2005 film. The story depicts Reed Richards and Ben Grimm as childhood friends meeting initially at the ages of 11 years old but has many contradictions in terms of its chronology. Ben is shown as a 10-year old 5th-grade student in 2007, but in 2015 his military file lists him as born in 1986. So to be accurate I placed this film in the late 90's initially (c. 1997) moving forward into the mid to late 2000s.

**Nick Fury: Agent of S.H.I.E.L.D.** (1998 movie) — television film that takes place in 1998 and is not connected to any of the current Marvel timelines. David Hasselhoff is cast as Nick Fury.


**Blade II** (2002 movie) takes place in 2000, two years after the events in **Blade** (1998 movie).


**The Amazing Spider-Man** (2012 movie) is a reboot of the 2002 film so the events take place during the same time.


*Blade Trinity* (2004 movie) takes place in 2004. Interestingly enough this was Ryan Reynolds first collaboration with Marvel Entertainment prior to being cast later as Wade Wilson (Deadpool). He was also cast as Hal Jordan in the DC Comics film *Green Lantern* (2011 movie). Ryan sure gets around.

*Elektra* (2005 movie) takes place after the events in *Daredevil* (2003 movie).

*Man-Thing* (2005 movie) — we can assume it takes place in 2005.

*Fantastic Four* (2005 movie) takes place in 2005. Chris Evans first appearance as the Marvel character Johnny Storm (The Human Torch) prior to being cast as Captain America.


*Blade: The Series* (2006 series) takes place after the events of *Blade Trinity* (2004 movie). The TV series did not cast Wesley Snipes as Snipes had been unhappy with the previous Blade Trinity film. Kirk “Sticky Fingaz” Jones starred in the title role. The two-hour pilot was titled *Blade: House of Chthon* and was also later released on DVD in unrated expanded format with harsher language and frontal nudity.

*Ghost Rider* (2007 movie) takes place primarily in 2007 with some events involving The Devil, Mephistopheles taking place over one hundred years prior and some also taking place in 1986.


Thor (2011 movie) — ALL take place at the same time over a period of 7 days.

Note: The Incredible Hulk (2008 movie) is a Continuity Reboot of the Hulk (2003 movie). Three different actors have been cast as Bruce Banner in the 2003, 2008 and The Avengers (2012 movie) films.


The Avengers (2012 movie) takes place in 2012.


Iron Man 3 (2013 movie) takes place in 2013.

Marvel One-Shot: All Hail the King (2014 short) – Released with Thor: The Dark World Blu-ray as a follow-up spin-off to Iron Man 3.


Marvel’s Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D. (2013 series) Season 1 (ep. 8-16)

The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (2014 movie) sequel in the reboot of the 2002 film trilogy but the events take place in 2013.

Captain America: The Winter Soldier (2014 movie) takes place in 2014, two years after the Battle of New York as depicted in The Avengers (2012 movie)


Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 (2017 movie) takes place late 2014 to early 2015. James Gunn specifically wanted this to take place just a few months after the first Guardians, presumably to keep Baby Groot in the picture.


Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance (2011 film) takes place in 2015, 8 years after the events in the first film and is also known as Ghost Rider 2.


Marvel’s Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D. (2015-2016 season) Season 3 (ep. 1-10) takes place in 2015. The events take place 6 months after the events that concluded the second season.


Marvel’s Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D. Season 3 (2015-2016 season) (ep. 11-19) takes place in 2016, three months after the events of episode 10.


Deadpool (2016 movie) Takes place in 2016 based on the new timeline. X-Men: Days of Future Past (2014 movie) changed the previous portrayal of Deadpool in X-Men Origins: Wolverine (2009 movie). It is possible that this film could take place sometime after X2 where Colossus was first introduced but the new timeline makes most of the X-men film series irrelevant. Wade Wilson isn’t an experiment of William Stryker in this film and is instead a mercenary who kills for money. There are also references in the film to other films such as The Avengers (2012 movie). Colossus also appears older and larger in this film than he did in X2 and the exterior scenes, cars, and backgrounds depict a modern world so one could assume the events in this film take place in 2016.

Captain America: Civil War (2016 movie) takes place in 2016.

Team Thor (2016 short) is a mockumentary, released with the Civil War (2016 movie) Blu-ray, of what Thor was doing during the events of ‘Civil War’. You can watch it here.


Most Wanted (2016 pilot) a spin-off to Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D. and part of the MCU but not ordered to be a series.

Doctor Strange (2016 movie) takes place in 2016. Trivia: There was a pilot episode produced in 1979 for an unproduced TV series

Team Thor 2 (2016 short) Sequel to the previous Team Thor mockumentary released with the Doctor Strange Blu-ray. You can see it here.


Legion (2017 series) is based on the Marvel Comics character David Haller/Legion, the mutant son of Professor Charles Xavier, but interestingly enough is not part of the MCU or the X-men film series universe. The series was stated to be set in a universe parallel to the X-men films where “the US government is in the early days of being aware that something called mutants exist but the public is not”. There was talk of Legion possibly connecting to future X-men universe films. This would most likely take place in the new timeline created by Days of Future Past (2014 movie) since Xavier’s wheelchair from X-Men: Apocalypse (2016 movie) was shown in a brief flashback.

The Defenders (2017 series) is scheduled to be released August 18, 2017, is set in the MCU and interconnected with Marvel’s Daredevil, Jessica Jones, Luke Cage, Iron Fist and The Punisher series.

The Punisher (2017 series) has an unannounced release date in 2017 and is interconnected with Marvel’s Daredevil, Jessica Jones, Luke Cage, Iron Fist and The Defenders series.

Inhumans (2017 series) will premiere on IMAX screens in 2017 before premiering on ABC September 22nd.

The Gifted (2017 series) is said to be connected in some way to the X-men film series universe but is not part of the MCU.

Spider-Man: Homecoming (2017 movie) will premiere in NYC on June 28, 2017, and be released on July 7, 2017. It is interesting to note that Peter Parker will be portrayed much younger than in previous films as he is still enrolled in high school. Since this film is part of the current Marvel Cinematic Universe we can only assume that the depiction of Peter Parker is in current 2017 and the previous depictions of Peter Parker have been rendered null and void.
**Black Panther** (2018 film) is set to be released in the United States on February 16, 2018, in IMAX and takes place after the events in **Captain America: Civil War** (2016 movie).

**Deadpool: No Good Deed** (2017 film) A short film available on both Ryan Reynolds and 20th Century Fox YouTube Channels made to debut exclusively before the U.S. and Canadian release of **Logan** (2017 movie). The sequence serves as a first-look at the **Deadpool** sequel but is not intended to be a teaser or trailer so we can reasonably assume that it takes place 1-2 years after the events of **Deadpool** (2016 movie).

**Logan** (2017 movie) Takes place primarily between 2024-2029 with parts from the past. Its events are likely based on the new timeline created by Wolverine himself in **X-Men: Days of Future Past** (2014 movie).

### Currently Unknown in the Timeline

- **New Mutants** (2018 film)
- **Avengers: Infinity War** (2018 film)
- **Deadpool 2** (2018 film)
- **Ant-Man and the Wasp** (2018 film)
- **Untitled Venom film** (2018 film)
- **Dark Phoenix** (2018 film)
- **Cloak & Dagger** (2018 Series)
- **New Warriors** (2018 series)
- **Runaways** (2018 series)
- **Captain Marvel** (2019 film)
- Untitled **Avengers film** (2019 film)
- **Spider-Man: Homecoming 2** (2019 film)
- Untitled **X-Force film** (TBA)
- Untitled **Gambit film** (TBA)
- Untitled **Deadpool 3 film** (TBA)
Untitled Laura Kinney/X-23 film (TBA)

Untitled Alpha Flight film (TBA)

Untitled Exiles film (TBA)

Hellfire Club (currently unproduced but part of the X-men film series universe)

Sources

X-Men Movies Wiki: Timeline

Marvel Cinematic Universe Avengers Timeline

List of films based on Marvel Comics

Marvel Entertainment

Marvel Television

Marvel.com: All Marvel Movies

http://RioRocket.com