# The Multiverse Saga Definitive Viewing Order

(including Fox and Sony movies)

## Introduction and Explanation

It is no secret that the Marvel Studios "Infinity Saga" is the most successful film series in history. From Iron man to Avengers: Endgame - the stories told through those films were consistent and impactful to audiences. "The Multiverse Saga" however has not been nearly as consistent as its predecessor. As Disney and Marvel Studios have been growing, they have acquired multiple other characters and brands to integrate into their films. For example, the X-MEN and Fantastic Four were at one time owned by a competitor to Disney, 20th Century Fox. Though the X-MEN and Fantastic Four are Marvel brands, Marvel Studios did not have the rights to their film production. This also goes for Spider-man, and the Incredible Hulk, those of which Marvel Studios has limited access to. That was until 2019 when Disney officially purchased 20th Century Fox and brokered deals with Universal Studios and Sony Pictures. Marvel Studios now has access to not only the Avengers, but also the X-MEN, the Fantastic Four, and classic Spider-man. It was time for all of these heroes to meet the Avengers on the big screen.

This would be easier said than done. Because Fox and Sony had already established their own film series, Marvel Studios needed an explanation as to how all of these characters could meet up in the new films. The solution was "the Multiverse Saga." An in-world explanation of how all these separate worlds would come into being, and then eventually intersect with one another. Many of the films and TV shows in this saga are great, yet many others, are lacking in quality. Regardless - everyone can admit trying to follow the order of all these movies and TV shows, is the most challenging part. This list was made to solve that problem.

This list completely rearranges the viewing order for the MCU films, while including all the X-MEN and Spider-man films as well. This list also takes into account the various spin-offs, whether they be movies or TV shows. Poor quality spin offs or movies that aren't worth viewing, are simply removed from the watch order, or listed as optional depending on their quality. This way, the overarching plot is understandable to both the average audience and the die hard fans while cutting out the unnecessary bloat. At the same time, this list is extremely thorough at providing important explanations for the content that may be confusing to viewers. This list will provide the best way to watch the Multiverse Saga, from Wandavision and Loki, all the way to Avengers: Doomsday and Avengers: Secret Wars.

THE MULTIVERSE SAGA

Loki: Season 1 (2021)

The Multiverse is created in chaos

Note: After the events of Loki season 1, the universe splits into the multiverse and dramatic changes happen throughout the plot. Various different timelines are chaotically created. In the comics and films, these alternate timelines are designated by a number, listed below.

## THE SACRED TIMELINE (Earth-616)

(The main Avengers timeline, commonly referred to as the MCU or Earth-616)

Spider-man: Far From Home (2019)

Black Widow (2021)

Shang Chi and the Legend of The Ten Rings (2021)

The Falcon and the Winter Soldier (2021)

Black Panther: Wakanda Forever (2022)

The Eternals (2021)

Captain America: Brave New World (2025)

Ant-Man: Quantumania (2023)

**Loki: Season 2 (2023)** 

Note: After multiple variants of "The Conquerer" are defeated, Loki: Season 2 continues the plot by organizing the multiverse. Multiple timelines now co-exist amongst each other, and the films will go on to explore these various alternate realities. The order in which to view these films is listed below.

THE SPIDER-MAN TIMELINES (Earth-96283, Earth-120703, Earth-688, Earth-616)

Note: This section details the best way to watch all of the Sony Spider-man films. Though most of these classic spider-man films were not produced by Marvel Studios directly, they play a major role in the connective multiverse plot.

Earth-96283 (Classic Sony spider-man films)

Spider-man (2002)

**Spider-man 2 (2004)** 

**Spider-man 3 (2007)** 

Earth-120703 (Rebooted Sony spider-man films)

The Amazing Spider-man (2012)

The Amazing Spider-man 2 (2014)

Earth-688 (Rebooted Sony villain films)

Venom (2018) (optional)

Note: Venom is completely optional viewing, for more information check the section "Excluded Sony-Verse Films" at the bottom of this list.

Earth-616 (Returning to the MCU)

Spider-man: No Way Home (2021)

Note: To the average viewer, this film is the only one that is not included in Disney+. Please do not skip this film, it can be rented through a separate provider.

## THE CLASSIC X-MEN TIMELINE (Earth-10005a and Earth-10005b)

Note: The X-MEN films, commonly referred to as the "Fox-Verse" (due to their production under 20th century Fox), are beloved by fans but are critiqued for their inconsistent quality and confusing plot-holes. This list has intentionally organized the higher quality X-MEN films into a watchable order, while excluding the poor quality films that are unnecessary viewing. Though

the X-MEN films were not originally produced by Marvel Studios, they will become very important in later films, similarly to the classic Spider-man films. As important as these films are, do not expect them to be nearly as consistent as the other films included in this list.

X-Men: First Class (2011)

X-Men (2000)

X2 (2003)

X-Men: The Last Stand (2006)

X-Men: Days of Future Past (2014)

### **BACK TO THE SACRED TIMELINE** (Earth-616)

Note: This section revisits the Sacred timeline also known as Earth-616 or the MCU.

Thor: Love and Thunder (2022)

WandaVision (2021)

**Moon Knight (2022)** (optional but recommended)

**Doctor Strange and the Multiverse of Madness (2022)** 

Hawkeye (2021) (optional)

Ms Marvel (2022) (optional but recommended)

The Marvels (2023)

The Guardians of The Galaxy: Holiday special (2022) (optional)

The Guardians of The Galaxy Vol. 3 (2023)

### REVISITING THE X-MEN AND INTRODUCING DEADPOOL

(Earth-10005b)

Note: Though these films are set in the same universe as the X-MEN, the Deadpool and Wolverine films differ greatly in their style and presentation. The Deadpool films are well known

for their raunchy adult humor and excessive violence, as well as fourth-wall breaking jokes and references to other movies. The Wolverine films, while not as raunchy as Deadpool, are also thematically adult, thus viewer discretion is advised for this section of films. These films offer more depth to the character of Wolverine, and with the introduction of Deadpool both characters are eventually tied into the plot of the other films. "Deadpool and Wolverine (2024)" is the finale to this series, and acts as a send off to the Fox produced Marvel films.

The Wolverine (2013)

Deadpool (2016)

Logan (2017)

**Deadpool 2 (2018)** 

Note: before watching **Deadpool and Wolverine (2024)**, please check the section "The Fox Spin-offs" at the very bottom of this list for more information.

Deadpool and Wolverine (2024)

## **INTRODUCING THE FANTASTIC FOUR TIMELINE** (Earth-828)

Note: Earth-828 is the last branch of the multiverse to be introduced, and thus this film is of major importance to the overarching plot.

Fantastic Four: First Steps (2025)

## FINAL RETURN TO THE SACRED TIMELINE (Earth-616)

Thunderbolts\* (2025)

Spider-man: Brand New Day (2026)

### THE MULTIVERSE COLLIDES

Avengers: DOOMSDAY (2026)

Avengers: SECRET WARS (unconfirmed)

# **Optional Extras**

# Further Exploring the Multiverse in Animation (optional)

WHAT IF...? (2021-2024) (optional)

"WHAT IF...?" is an animated Marvel series focused on the exploration of the multiverse. Each episode is a serialized story and is completely optional viewing. Each episode is tied to the multiverse plot and is highly regarded by fans. Some plot points from this animated series appear in other films, but WHAT IF... is still completely optional viewing. It is best to view before Avengers:DOOMSDAY

### X-MEN '97 (2024) (optional)

"X-MEN '97" is a follow up to the original 1992 X-MEN cartoon. It is an animated series that focuses on a comic accurate representation of the X-MEN in a different timeline. It is optional viewing for fans who want a deeper dive into the original X-MEN story.

#### Eyes of Wakanda (2025) (optional)

"Eyes of Wakanda" is an animated series focusing on the tribal heroes of Wakanda throughout history and the multiverse. It is a short series for fans wanting a deeper dive into the Black Panther lore.

SPIDER-MAN: INTO THE SPIDER-VERSE (2018) (optional but highly recommended)

SPIDER-MAN: ACROSS THE SPIDER-VERSE (2023) (optional but highly recommended)

SPIDER-MAN: BEYOND THE SPIDER-VERSE (2026) (optional but highly recommended)

Note: This Sony animated Spider-man series is critically acclaimed for its unique art style and brilliant story telling. It is optional viewing but is highly recommended for fans wanting more depth out of the Spider-man fandom. The Spider-Verse trilogy is considered by most to be the best animated super hero film series created. It ties indirectly into the other Spider-man films.

#### Marvel Zombies (2025) (optional)

Note: Set in an alternate timeline, Marvel Zombies picks up on the "WHAT IF..." plot point by putting the animated heroes in a gory and violent world dominated by zombies.

## Earth-616 Spin-off TV shows (optional)

Note: Below is a list of spin-off TV shows that take place in the Marvel Sacred Timeline (Earth-616). Many of these shows are valuable to fans who want a deeper experience of the MCU, but they are not required viewing for understanding the overarching multiverse plot. Some of these shows however are very poor and quality and thus are marked as not recommended.

Agatha All Along (2024) (optional but recommended)

Secret Invasion (2023) (not recommended)

Werewolf by Night (2022) (optional)

She-Hulk: Attorney at Law (2022)

(not recommended)

Echo (2024) (not recommended)

DareDevil: Born Again (2024) (optional but recommended)

Ironheart (2025) (optional)

### Excluded X-Men Films (optional)

Note: These X-Men films were intentionally excluded from the list due to their very poor quality and plot inconsistencies as mentioned earlier in the list. These films have been heavily panned by critics and do not intersect with other X-MEN films or the multiverse Saga. These films are excluded from the list and are not recommended viewing.

X-Men Origins: Wolverine (2009)

(not recommended)

X-Men: Apocalypse (2016) (not recommended)

X-Men: Dark Phoenix (2019) (not recommended)

The New Mutants (2020) (not recommended)

## The Fox spin-offs (optional)

Note: The Fox spin-off films are not connected to the X-MEN but are still produced by 20th century Fox and thus are listed here as optional viewing. These films are very dated and lacking in quality. However, many cameos and references to these films are present in "Deadpool and Wolverine" (2024) and the plot of that film heavily involves these spin-off films. These titles are absolutely not necessary viewing, nor are they even recommended. However, familiarity with these movies will provide a deeper understanding of the references in the later Deadpool films. Thus these films are listed as optional.

Blade (1998) (optional)

**Blade 2 (2002)** (optional)

Blade: Trinity (2004) (optional)

Daredevil (2003) (not recommend)

Elektra (2005) (not recommended)

Fantastic Four (2005) (optional)

Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer (2007) (optional)

Fantastic Four (2015) (not recommended)

### **Excluded Sony-Verse Films**

Note: In 2018 Sony Pictures launched a film series based around Spider-man villain origin stories. Sony Pictures, who has joint ownership of the Spider-man film rights, was attempting to launch their own saga of movies to compete with Disney. This Marvel adjacent film series was commonly referred to as the "Sony-Verse" due to its production under Sony rather than Disney. These films reviewed quite poorly by critics and confused audiences, thus the "Sony-Verse" was cancelled in 2024. These films do not tie into the Multiverse Saga and thus they are excluded from the list as not recommended viewing. The only exception to these films is Venom (2018) which does play a very minor role in Spider-man: No Way Home (2021) for those who may be interested.

Venom (2018) (optional)

**Venom: Let There Be Carnage (2021)** 

(not recommended)

**Venom: The Last Dance (2024)** 

(not recommended)

Morbius (2022) (not recommended)

Madame Web (2024) (not recommended)

Kraken the Hunter (2024) (not recommended)