

Movies that shot for the moon



Universal Pictures

From left, Bill Paxton, Kevin Bacon and Tom Hanks in a scene from "Apollo 13" (1995).

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The moon has always been fascinating. So when we first invented technology for moving pictures, it's obvious that from those early days we looked to the moon for inspiration. Whether the stories that were stirred from the bright lunar surface were dreamed.. up in someone's imagination or reflections of actual events, the moon continues to intrigue on screen.

"A Trip to the Moon" (1902) — The classic silent film is one of the most recognizable of its era and one that has been incredibly influential to future generations of filmmakers. The short French adventure film by Georges Méliès, considered the first sci-fi film ever made (or at least the only surviving one), borrows from Jules Verne and sends a group of astronomers to the moon where they explore the surface and manage to escape from moon people while capturing one to bring back to earth. Stream it on YouTube or the original colorized version on Kanopy or rent it on Apple TV.

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A still from "A Trip to the Moon" (1902).

Star-film