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It sure seems like everybody these days is either cutting or has already cut the cable cord. With the sheer breadth and convenience of streaming services, it makes sense. You can find practically anything you want to watch on streaming services these days, but even they are getting more expensive by the year. If you're a real bargain hunter, you want to find ways to watch movies online for free. Believe it or not, legal and secure free movie resources do exist. We've found them all for you. Here is our list of the best places to watch free movies online. The Roku Channel When Roku initially launched its free, ad-supported Roku Channel, it wasn't technically eligible for this roundup because you had to have one of the company's streaming media devices to see it. Roku devices certainly won't break the bank, but they aren't free. Now, however, the Roku Channel is available to anyone via the web, as well as through the company's free apps for iOS and Android. The service boasts more than 40,000 movies and TV shows to choose from, including favorites such as Die Hard, Edward Scissorhands, and The Silence of the Lambs, as well as a number of new and old TV series, from The Dick Van Dyke Show and Bewitched to The Bachelorette. It also has a special Not on Netflix section to help you find movies that aren't available on your other streaming subscription. You'll need to create a free Roku account before you can watch, but that's a quick and painless process. If you ever decide to expand your choices, the Roku Channel is now home to several premium subscription options including Showtime, Epix, Cinemax, AMC, and Starz. The Roku Channel is available in the U.S. and Canada. YouTube This one is a no-brainer. Everyone knows YouTube is the biggest video-hosting service online, and you probably already use the site for silly cat videos and footage of people getting hit with exercise balls. But YouTube has a sizable collection of feature-length movies on its Free to Watch tier as well. Granted, the majority of these are B-movie novelties, but there are a few quality flicks hiding in there. In addition to the free, Google-curated movies, there are thousands of films on the site that won't show up unless you search directly for them. If you're looking for a particular title, especially an older one, it's worth performing a quick search on YouTube to see if someone has posted it. These aren't always uploaded by the film's rights holders, and many of them are divided into episodes and playlists, but as they say, beggars can't be choosers. Finding free movies on YouTube has gotten more difficult lately, as more rights holders are opting to offer their films for rent via the service, and YouTube also has subscription tiers like YouTube Premium and its live TV streaming service, YouTube TV. Still, you'll find plenty to watch, especially if your standards aren't too high regarding the quality of the stream. IMDb TV Newer to this roundup is the Amazon-owned IMDb TV (formerly known as Freevee). It has free, ad-supported TV shows and movies. Due to its partnership with Amazon, IMDb TV gets a lot of high-end movies coming and going. Many new to Amazon Prime Video movies start their run on the streaming platform as only available with an IMDb TV subscription. Likewise, thanks to Amazon's investment, IMDb TV also has a host of original content like Timewasters and Alex Rider. You can watch IMDb TV on the web, Amazon Fire devices, and Apple TV, as well as through the Amazon Prime app that you can find on many smart TVs, tablets, and phones. IMDb TV is available in the U.S. and U.K. Crackle Crackle originally launched in 2004 under the name Grouper and has been through almost as many name changes as P. Diddy. Initially controlled by Sony, it then became a joint venture between Sony and Chicken Soup for the Soul Entertainment (which Sony has since relieved itself of). That partnership created a new entity called Crackle Plus, and it was believed that this would also become the name of the streaming service. However, one look at the site and it's clear that simplicity has won: it's now just called Crackle. Whew. On Crackle, you'll find a mixture of newer releases and classic TV shows in genres spanning action, comedy, crime, drama, horror, and sci-fi. Most of their roster is from Sony Pictures and its offshoots, including Columbia Pictures, TriStar, and Sony Pictures Classics, but the streamer also features content from partners such as Lionsgate, Miramax, NBC Universal, MGM, and more. On the movie front, you'll find both box office and critical hits like I Am Not Your Negro and Man on Wire, as well as some quality low-budget hits like Lion and a host of Christmas movies. Plus, there's a generous smattering of obscure but interesting B movies. The TV selection is OK, too, featuring studio shows like 21 Jump Street and 3rd Rock from the Sun and originals such as The Oath and Going from Broke. Crackle is a great resource, though the constant interruptions from advertisers can get old pretty quickly, and while the service is free, signing up for an account will unlock some helpful features such as parental controls, captions for movies, and a Watch Later feature so you can access shows of interest later. The service is offered in 21 countries but has shut down its Canadian, Latin American, and Australian offerings. Vudu Vudu has a free ad-supported content section that varies from month to month in terms of quality. Vudu also has an In Theaters: Films Before DVD option, allowing you to watch brand new movies that are in theaters or yet to arrive on DVD for a price. If you take a cruise through the site's selection of 4K/UHD titles, there are even one or two free-to-watch options. You'll still need a Vudu account, but you can create one for free. The Vudu app is already supported by plenty of platforms, including Apple TV, game consoles, and more. Plus, there's an app for most mobile devices. Vudu is only available in the U.S. and Mexico. Hoopla How's this for a good deal: Sign up for a library card and get free downloads or streams of movies with no ads at all. That's the deal when you use Hoopla, a digital media streaming platform that has partnered with local libraries to let members access borrowable content online. It's similar to OverDrive, but with more than just e-books and audiobooks. The availability of any given title will depend on your location and the number of copies available for download, but we found some surprisingly decent flicks when we last checked. Streaming will work on any device with a browser, while downloads require the Hoopla app on a mobile device. Not every library currently supports Hoopla, so make sure you ask. So far, libraries in the U.S. and Canada have access to Hoopla. It also offers a Chrome extension to make downloading and streaming even easier in your browser. Vimeo YouTube might be the biggest video-hosting site, but Vimeo is probably the best. Yeah, them's fighting words, but Vimeo has the muscle to back them up. The site has a clean layout that's devoid of ads and benefits from an active user community that's widely considered more professional and constructive than YouTube's. From this community emerges a lot of great original short and feature-length films. Vimeo also has an On-Demand section where users can purchase full-length movies and television shows. The majority of these are independently produced by Vimeo users, but some offerings are produced by major studios as well. Either way, Vimeo is a great place to find free, high-quality movies. Plex Free Movies and TV Shows Plex is best known as a versatile and easy way to manage and watch your private collection of movies, music, photos, and other media. However, in 2019, the company launched its own ad-supported free streaming service with a collection of movies and TV shows from studios like MGM, Warner, Lionsgate, and Legendary. It's available globally, though title selection will vary heavily by region. You can access the collection of 20,000 free movies and TV shows from a browser or on any of the huge number of devices that support the Plex client software, like Apple TV, Roku, smart TVs, etc. All you need is a free Plex account and you're good to go. For those who already use Plex as their media server, the free ad-supported options can be added to existing server categories, making the experience completely seamless. Pluto TV Though it may not be as well-known as the above services, Pluto TV is still worthy of your attention. Not only does it host free films on-demand, but it's also a free live-TV streaming service, hosting content curated from across the web. While the channels vary wildly, we're focused here on the movies. Pluto TV currently features multiple live movie channels, perfect if you want to watch something but don't know what. There are two general-purpose movie channels, with the rest being focused on specific genres or categories, including action movies, Flicks of Fury, Horror 24/7, Classic Movies, Black Cinema, Gravyas Movies, and The Asylum. The service works in the U.S. as well as in many international locations. Pluto TV's on-demand movie library is relatively small and rotates frequently but offers just as much variety as its live movie channels. It is also available on a ton of devices in addition to your computer, including Apple TV, Amazon Fire TV, Roku devices, and more. To find out more about Pluto TV, see our full guide to the service. Tubi TV Another up-and-comer, Tubi TV is very similar to Crackle in that it offers both free movies and TV episodes. No matter which device you use, chances are pretty good that you'll be able to watch Tubi, as it's available on Android, iOS, Roku, Apple TV, Amazon Fire TV, Xfinity X1, Samsung smart TVs, Sony smart TVs, PlayStation, Xbox, and the web. As with the vast majority of services on this list, you'll need to watch a few commercials, but that's what keeps the service free. Tubi boasts a programming lineup of more than 20,000 shows and movies and has content from over 200 partners, including MGM, Lionsgate, and Paramount. Hit films like Hancock and The Goonies are there, as well as cult classics like Planet of the Apes, Fists of Fury, and more. If you're using this service to supplement Netflix rather than replace it, the Not on Netflix section will help you find new and interesting films to watch. Kanopy

Just like Hoopla, Kanopy is not only free to use, but it’s also commercial-free if you have a library card. Originally founded in 2008 in Australia as an educational tool, Kanopy now offers a library of over 30,000 films from more than 200 libraries. There is a heavy focus on independent free movies and documentaries (the company even has access to many recent films from the A24 catalog), but you’ll find all sorts of films available. Kanopy is available internationally, but the content may vary by location. Top Documentary Films Love documentaries? So do we. You know what they say, truth is stranger than fiction. The aptly titled Top Documentary Films is hands down the best site for documentaries. Not every selection is movie-length, but a good documentary doesn’t have to be long — some of the best are under the 60-minute mark. Boasting a library of more than 3,000 films, the site also has a simple and straightforward layout and categorizes all of its films based on the subject matter, making it easy to find something you’re interested in right away. The content isn’t hosted by the site, but rather curated and embedded from other sites such as YouTube, Vimeo, Daily Motion, etc. It’s available internationally, but not all content will work in all locations. Archive.org Chances are you’re reading this article because you’re looking for a place to watch newly released movies online. While there’s nothing wrong with that, you definitely shouldn’t ignore all of the fantastic older films the internet has to offer. Archive.org offers a veritable treasure trove of old movies you’ve probably never heard of, as well as a handful that you’ll recognize. The Archive — which is also the home of the famous Wayback Machine that shows you how the internet used to be — has silent films, black-and-white horror flicks, obscure sci-fi movies, and an assortment of other movies. They may not have all the fancy CGI we’ve all grown so accustomed to, but the occasional throwback is a great way to mix things up. Open Culture Open Culture is designed to be your one-stop-shop for all things free and cultured. The site offers hundreds of free online classes to enroll in, thousands of free e-books to read, and hours upon hours of lectures from prominent figures such as Carl Sagan and Leonard Bernstein. It also offers a ton of free movies. Here, you’ll find everything from silent films and Hitchcock-helmed projects to Westerns and film noir. The site even houses some early shorts by legends like Quentin Tarantino and Stanley Kubrick. Open Culture may be difficult to navigate, but with more than 1,000 free movies available, it’s definitely worth the slog. Shocker Internet Drive-In Shocker Internet Drive-In is a bit niche, and its website looks like it was made in the ’90s, but it’s a great resource. The site is updated weekly with featured horror classics, which are then made available for free download as WMV files at the website’s Snack Bar. The site is a fun little blast from the past, with weekly showings framed in a digital drive-in. Users can also purchase DVD copies of any film on the website for a mere \$3. If you miss the old days of the internet when it was more like the Wild West and everything was less polished, this might be for you. Editors’ Recommendations