6 Week Film School

Film Review

GWFS •

Star Wars IV - A New Hope

U | 1977 | 121 Mins | Film

Director: George Lucas Story: George Lucas

Synopsys

Luke Skywalker joins forces with a Jedi Knight, a smuggler, his co pilot wookiee and two droids to save the galaxy from the Empire's worlddestroying battle-station, while also attempting to rescue Princess Leia from the evil Darth Vader.

You need

Access to film Online or on DVD.

*We always recommend watching films on the largest screen possible with quality speakers.

DVD and BluRays also tend to offer great resources such as Director commentary and featurettes about the making of the film which we always recommend...



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Before watching

This is perhaps one of *the* most icon films that has ever been made, its influence is almost immeasurable. What needs to be appreciated is that nothing had been done like this before. This film was ground breaking in its genre and especially special effects.

Watch out for

- Opening shot (00:02:00)
 This is iconic and really establishes the scale and quality of film as the Star Destroyer chases the smaller rebel ship.
- Meet Han Solo (00:48:00)
 Luke and Ben meet Han for the first time and in this short scene Hans characters is firmly established.
- Dual (01:30:00)
 Ben and Vader fight and we see a light sabre dual for the first time and learn of some past they had before.
- Attack the Death Star (01:45:00)
 The rebels attack the Death Star and where ILM earned their reputation. The pace of the edit and cockpit scenes culminate in the trench scene.

Take from the film...

Sound

✓ John Williams score needs no introduction but the sound design and FX by Derek Ball was ground breaking.

Characters

 Luke, Leia, Han and Darth Vader form the key characters of this film but R2D2 and C3P0 string the whole story together.

Filming

✓ Until Star Wars Industrial Light and Magic did not exist and some of the effects were ground breaking. Detail to scenes and locations makes the film more believable.

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