

## **Star Wars**

The Star Wars movie franchise began in 1977 and was revolutionary literally from the beginning. Not only did it start with the fourth episode out of a planned nine, but it was the first modern film that didn't start with the film credits. Until that point, films began by listing the actors, director, producers, writers, and other major participants, but Star Wars – A New Hope did not. Indeed, George Lucas was fined \$250,000 by the Director's Guild of America for not including the director's name in the opening sequence, and he resigned in protest.

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The film itself was shot on location in Tunisia, at Elstree Studios in England, and with a few scenes in Death Valley, California. George Lucas reportedly sought to give the film the feeling of a documentary; although it was set in space, he wanted it to convey a sense of it being fact, not fiction. This intention extended to the visual effects: Industrial Light & Magic, Lucas's special effects company, deliberately used everyday objects, including machine and engine parts, to construct the props, and even the majority of the sound effects were created mechanically, rather than using synthesisers.

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How old is the first Star Wars movie?

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Where was the movie filmed?

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What company created the special effects?