

SEASON'S BLEEDINGS

YOUR ULTIMATE GUIDE TO CHRISTMAS HORROR MOVIES

Ranked subjectively below are 50 horror films about Christmas, or set at Christmastime. You'll find all of these films on our Venn diagrams, categorized by tone and then themes. A * denotes a film that appears in our Black Christmas pre-show!

1.	Black Christmas	1974	Dir. Bob Clark	
	A feminist masterpiece, considered by many to be the original slasher film. You're here watching it!			
2.	Dead of Night	1945	Dir. Alberto Cavalcanti et. all	
	An anthology with all killer, no filler segments, including a ghostly Christmas party.			
3.	Sole Survivor	1984	Dir. Thom Eberhardt	
	A slow burn story similar to Final Destination, with an oppressive atmosphere of dread amidst the holidays.			
4.	Super Dark Times	2017	Dir. Kevin Phillips	
	A tragedy occurs at Christmastime, and a group of adolescents find themselves keeping a very dark secret. Uncomfortably realistic.			
5.	Inside	2007	Dir. Julien Maury & Alexandre Bustillo	
	A pregnant woman fights off a home invader on Christmas Eve, New French Extremity style. Absolutely brutal.			
6.	Silent Night, Deadly Night	1984	Dir. Charles E. Sellier, Jr.	*
	No other film has as many Christmas-themed slasher kills as this one. A must-see if you like cheesy slashers at all.			
7.	The Day of the Beast	1995	Dir. Alex de la Iglesia	
	A priest must commit as many sins by Christmas as he can, in order to prevent the birth of the Anti-Christ. Chaotic and creative.			
8.	Dead End	2003	Dir. Jean-Baptiste Andrea & Fabrice Canepa	
	An ominous, Twilight Zone-esque tale of holiday travel gone wrong, featuring Ray Wise aka Leland Palmer.			
9.	Gremlins	1984	Dir. Joe Dante	*
	Keep them out of the light! Keep them dry! Don't feed them after midnight!			
10.	Rare Exports: A Christmas Tale	2010	Dir. Jalmari Helander	*
	The most unusual Santa origin story you'll ever see.			
11.	Blood Beat	1983	Dir. Fabrice A. Zaphiratos	
	While visiting her boyfriend's family, a woman discovers a psychic connection with the ghost of a samurai who begins to kill for her.			
12.	In Fabric	2018	Dir. Peter Strickland	*
	The most haunting, beautiful, tactile and hypnotic film about a killer dress that you can imagine.			
13.	The Children	2008	Dir. Tom Shankland	
	A gnarly, gory survival story about evil children, set in the liminal space between Christmas and New Year's.			
14.	Feeders 2: Slay Bells	1998	Dir. John & Mark Polonia	*
	A shot-on-video indie classic by the Polonia brothers. Amateur? Maybe, but people who say this is bad just don't like fun!			
15.	Terrifier 3	2024	Dir. Damien Leone	*
	Art the Clown is back again, this time at Christmas! As gory and over-the-top as you'd expect, but with a surprising amount of lore.			
16.	Red Snow	2021	Dir. Sean Nichols Lynch	
	A vampire romance writer traps a real vampire in her garage in this surprisingly hilarious satire of Hallmark Christmas movies.			
17.	The White Reindeer	1952	Dir. Erik Blomberg	
	A moody, melancholic Finnish metaphor piece from the monstrous feminine tradition. A precursor to films like <i>Ginger Snaps</i> .			
18.	Treevenge	2008	Dir. Jason Eisener	*
	A clever indie short about the collective trauma of Christmas trees and their bloody revenge upon humanity!			
19.	Christmas Evil	1980	Dir. Lewis Jackson	*
	Yes, it's another "evil Santa" slasher, but one that takes itself entirely seriously. Twisted, brooding and psychological.			
20.	Dial Code: Santa Claus	1989	Dir. René Manzor	
	The French, R-rated action-horror version of Home Alone that you didn't know you wanted.			
21.	P2	2007	Dir. Franck Khalfoun	*
	A young woman fights for survival when she is trapped in a parking garage with a psycho killer after leaving a Christmas party.			
22.	Silent Night, Deadly Night Part 2	1987	Dir. Lee Harry	
	Two words: GARBAGE DAY!!!! (A third word? Iconic.)			
23.	Carnage for Christmas	2024	Dir. Alice Maio Mackay	
	A ghostly murder mystery from trans indie filmmaker Alice Maio Mackay, featuring a trans protagonist. Edited by Vera Drew!			
24.	The Oracle	1985	Dir. Roberta Findlay	
	A ghostly mood piece set at Christmas from porno/underground arthouse legend Roberta Findlay.			

25.	Silent Night, Deadly Night 4: Initiation	1990	Dir. Brian Yuzna	
	I'm dreaming of a Brian Yuzna Christmas. Goopy, gross and revolting!! The weirdest of the Silent Night, Deadly Nights by a lot!			
26.	Whoever Slew Auntie Roo?	1972	Dir. Curtis Harrington	
	A Hansel-and-Gretel story starring Shelley Winters, set in a huge creepy mansion at Christmas, with a cozy 60s atmosphere.			
27.	The Curse of the Cat People	1944	Dir. Robert Wise & Gunther von Fritsch	
	A sequel to Cat People (1942) about childhood loneliness and otherness. Much more symbolic and lyrical than its title would suggest.			
28.	Black X-Mas	2006	Dir. Glen Morgan	
	To its credit, this isn't trying to be the original Black Christmas. Gleefully gory, vibrant, and much more cartoonish than the original.			
29.	Don't Open Till Christmas	1984	Dir. Edmund Purdom & Alan Birkinshaw	*
	A sleazy, grimy, and extremely British little slasher. Nothing more, nothing less.			
30.	The Lodge	2019	Dir. Severin Fiala & Veronika Franz	
	A single location film short on logic, heavy on oppressive atmosphere, starring Riley Keough. It's very "elevated horror."			
31.	Anna and the Apocalypse	2017	Dir. John McPhail	
	A Christmastime zombie apocalypse musical. It's just OK, but it gets points for trying really hard!			
32.	A Christmas Horror Story	2015	Dir. S. Hoban, G. Harvey, B. Sullivan	
	It's kind of a mess, but it's a much more fun mess than I personally expected.			
33.	Silent Night	2021	Dir. Camille Griffin	
	If you want a little bit of <i>Melancholia</i> or <i>Threads</i> with your Christmas family ensemble dramedy, this is your movie.			
34.	Satan	2006	Dir. Kim Chapiron	
	France made some messed up movies in the 00s, including this one about a satan-worshipping Vincent Cassel's Christmas Eve antics.			
35.	Prime Evil	1988	Dir. Roberta Findlay	
	A sleazy, hazy Satanic Panic jam with a bonkers final ten minutes and a wild Devil puppet.			
36.	Calvaire	2004	Dir. Fabrice Du Welz	
	Another New French Extremity, this one about a singer whose car breaks down in the most disturbing village ever during the holidays.			
37.	The Advent Calendar	2021	Dir. Patrick Ridremont	
	A familiar Faustian bargain story with an unpredictable advent calendar at its core. Just OK, but some very cool art design!			
38.	Krampus	2015	Dir. Michael Dougherty	
	Mayhem abounds in a Christmas movie by the director of Trick 'r' Treat. Cool monsters, cringy jokes, and of course Krampus.			
39.	Jack Frost	1997	Dir. Michael Cooney	
	Is this bad? Yes. Is it the ridiculous, fun kind of bad? Mostly yes! Get a group together and riff on this one.			
40.	Two Front Teeth	2006	Dir. David Thomas Sckrabulis & Jamie Nash	
	A super low-budget celebration of Christmas puns and DIY horror spirit. There's a character named Clausferatu!			
41.	The Dorm That Dripped Blood	1982	Dir. Stephen Carpenter & Jeffrey Obrow	
	Essentially, the slightly boring slasher version of The Holdovers. Inexplicably on the Video Nasty list.			
42.	It's A Wonderful Knife	2023	Dir. Tyler MacIntyre	
	Another time travel slasher, but this one's at Christmas. I'm sure that was the whole pitch.			
43.	Silent Night, Deadly Night 5: The Toy Maker	1991	Dir. Martin Kitrosser	
	The fifth installment of the franchise is a Puppet Master rip off starring Mickey Rooney. Very 90s direct-to-video horror vibes.			
44.	Santa's Slay	2005	Dir. David Steiman	*
	If you vibe with the extremely 2000s B-Movie humor, you'll have a great time. If not, there's always violence!			
45.	Silent Night, Bloody Night	1972	Dir. Theodore Gershuny	
	Extremely dark and creepy in tone, but a little too sleepy & slow for its own good. AKA Night of the Dark Full Moon.			
46.	I Trapped The Devil	2019	Dir. Josh Lobo	
	An ominous, slow burn chamber piece about a family member who claims to have trapped Satan. Maybe too slow of a burn.			
47.	Better Watch Out	2016	Dir. Chris Peckover	
	A black-hearted, feel-bad exercise in psychological torture porn with a big plot twist and Diablo Cody-esque dialogue.			
48.	Silent Night, Deadly Night 3: Better Watch Out	1989	Dir. Monte Hellman	
	The lowest point of the Silent Night, Deadly Night franchise. Recommended for completionists only.			
49.	Puppet Master vs. Demonic Toys	2004	Dir. Ted Nicolaou	
	As someone who loves both Puppet Master and Demonic Toys: Don't watch this. Don't do it. Don't.			
50.	Tales of the Third Dimension	1984	Dir. Todd Durham et. all	
	A hard-to-find (so I haven't seen it!) anthology film with a legendary Christmas segment featuring a killer grandma.			

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