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# The Big G through the years Numbers in parentheses refer to movies (see filmography)



Very heavy and bulky. Tiny ears. Four fingers and toes. Visible fangs.



**1962** (3) Increased bulk and a more reptilian look. No ears. No fangs. Three toes instead of four



**1964** (4-5) **1965-66** (6-7) Slimmed-down Larger, movable body. Face softeyes. Longer ened. Grey-green tongue. Smaller eve color becomes dorsal fins. grey with undertones of blue.



**1967** (8) Bulky suit. Huge head with big eyes, heavy eyelids and a pug nose.



**1968-72** (9-12) **1973-75** (13-15) Less bulky suit. Head remains Smaller, rounded large and eyes dorsal fins. Large now brown — are huge. Features eves atop a rounded head. hardened and reduced after '73.



1984 (16) Features from the first two movies — ears, fangs and four toes return, Central dorsal fins bigger.



1989-95 (17-22) Head reduced and neck elongated. Irises enlarged. Musculature added. No fangs.

1999 (23) Dorsal fins

become large and craggier. For the first time in history, suit is tinted green

Web sites

http://entertainment

philly.com/godzilla

www.fandom.com/

www.godzilla.co.jp

SonyMovies/mov-

ies/Godzilla/ gdb

www.monster-island.

www.spe.sony.com/

godzilla

Pictures/

# **G-speak**

 Japanese for 'monster.'

#### Showa

 First series of Toho Godzilla movies, encon passing "Godzilla" in 1954 to "Godzilla" in

Heisei · Second series of Toho Godzilla movies. Many characters are re-introduced with new origins Monsters grow in size to keep up with growing skylines of real cit-

### Gojira

"Godzilla" in Japanese. Supposedly combines gorira ("gorilla") and kujira ("whale").

#### **Suitmation** Term for special

effects technique

## Filmography Toho has created 23 Godzilla movies. Video titles in italics if different from original.

Release Length Synopsis

				- J perc
1	Godzilla	1954	91 min.	The giant atomic reptile levels Tokyo before being killed by the Oxygen Destroyer (a weapon). Raymond Burr was spliced into the U.S. release.
2	Godzilla Raids Again	1955	82 min.	Godzilla — another one — and Anguirus battle, destroying Osaka.
3	King Kong vs. Godzilla	1962	98 min.	Clash of the titans between film icons Godzilla and King Kong.
4	Mothra vs. Godzilla (Godzilla vs. Mothra)	1964	89 min.	Mothra fights mankind — and Godzilla — to protect its egg.
5	Ghidrah, The Three-Headed Monster	1964	92 min.	Godzilla, Rodan and the Mothra larvae unite to protect Earth from the alien menace, King Ghidrah, a three-headed dragon-like creature.
6	Monster Zero (Godzilla vs. Monster zero)	1965	94 min.	Godzilla and Rodan defend against Ghidrah and its alien masters.
7	Godzilla vs. the Sea Monster	1966	87 min.	Godzilla and Mothra scrap with Ebirah, a gigantic crustacean.
8	Son of Godzilla	1967	86 min.	Godzilla protects his son from giant insects and a monster spider.
9	<b>Destroy All Monsters</b>	1968	88 min.	Aliens use mind control to make Earth's monsters attack.
10	Godzilla's Revenge	1969	70 min.	Godzilla teaches its son self-reliance in schoolboy's daydream. The younger Godzilla helps trounce Gabara.
11	Godzilla vs. Hedorah (Godzilla vs. the Smog Monsto	1971 er)	85 min.	Godzilla protects Earth from mutated pollution creature.
12	Godzilla vs. Gigan	1972	88 min.	Godzilla and Anguirus defend Earth from Ghidrah and Gigan.
13	Godzilla vs. Megalon	1973	81 min.	Godzilla and robot Jet Jaguar tag-team evil Megalon and Gigan.
14	Godzilla vs. MechaGodzilla	1974	84 min.	Godzilla battles a robotic version of itself, with help from the deity-creature King Caesar.
15	Terror of Godzilla (Terror of MechaGodzilla)	1975	83 min.	Godzilla defeats MechaGodzilla and Titanosaurus with the help of humans.
16	Godzilla (Godzilla 1985)	1984	103 min.	Godzilla re-introduced. Raymond Burr reprised role for U.S. release.
17	Godzilla vs. Biollante	1989	104 min.	Godzilla battles plant creature mutated with Godzilla genes.
18	Godzilla vs. King Ghidorah	1991	102 min.	Origins of Ghidorah retold. Godzilla battles it and its cyborg version.
19	Godzilla vs. Mothra	1992	102 min.	Origins of Mothra retold. Godzilla spars with it and Battra.
20	Godzilla vs. MechaGodzilla (Godzilla vs. MechaGodzilla II)	1993	107 min.	Godzilla and Rodan face new MechaGodzilla. Godzilla's son re-introduced as BabyGodzilla. Rodan dies, creating FireRodan — who dies.
21	Godzilla vs. SpaceGodzilla	1994	111 min.	Godzilla protects its offspring from a space creature formed when Godzilla genes pass through a black hole and merge with an alien.
22	Godzilla vs. Destoroyah	1995	103 min.	Godzilla, its atomic heart melting down, is slain by a mutation caused by the Oxygen Destroyer — the weapon from the first film.
23	Godzilla 2000	1999	100+ min.	Godzilla battles Orgah, an alien that crashed to Earth 6,000 years ago.

#### Headpiece: Worn on top of Removable dorsal the actor's head. Lights fins: Hide the are built into the back of seam through the mouth. Technicians which the actor control motorized eves. climbs to enter eyelids and lower jaw off Perforations in stage. the suit's neck: Allow the actor to see and breathe. Two sets of dorsal fins: One set is foam latex, which bends when Godzilla falls on his back. The other, made from fiber reinforced plastic, is rigid Suit: Made and has lights mounted of foam latex. inside. These are used in smooth on scenes in which Godzilla the inside uses his nuclear breath. and textured Technicians off-camera on the outstrobe the lights in the side. dorsal fins and Godzilla's mouth. The actual breath blast is animated later. Also: Robotic busts are used Tail movements: for some Controlled offclose-ups. camera by Miniatures used for distance shots

Suitmation A typical suit is about 6 feet tall, weighs about 175 lbs. and

costs roughly \$30,000. A new suit is made for each film.

### Books **The Official Godzilla** Compendium by J.D.

Lees and Marc Gerasini

**Japan's Favorite** Mon-Star by Steve

# **Magazine**

G-Fan, published bimonthly by Daikaiju Enterprises, Ltd., Box 3468, STEINBACH, Manitoba, Canada, ROA 2AO. Web site:

# Worth noting ...

www.g-fan.com

**■** Godzilla's famous roar is created by rubbing a contrabass (a large bass violin pitched an octave below the normal bass range) with a resin-

coated leather glove and reverberating the

sound emitted. ■ The American release of the first "Godzilla" was a tremendous success. earning \$2 million —

a fantastic sum for

1954.

**■** Raymond Burr reprised his reporter role in "Godzilla 1985" with one small change — his character was to be referred to as "Steve" or "Mr. Martin." but never "Steve Martin." to avoid confusion with

# The 23 Godzilla movies are divided into two subsets: the original Showa series and the Heisei series. In the

**Some of the allies and enemies** 

latter series, origins of several creatures are recreated and all of the monsters become larger. In cases in which monsters have appeared in both series, the latest version appears below. Movie numbers refer to

SOURCES: The Official Godzilla

Compendium by J.D. Lees and

Mon-Star by Steve Ryfle: Paul

Horn, San Diego Union Tribune;

and Aaron Smith, www.fandom

Marc Gerasini; Japan's Favorite



Researched, illustrated and

BRAD J. GUIGAR / DAILY NEWS

All photos @ Toho Studios, Inc.

designed by

GABARA **GIGAN ENEMY ENEMY** Height: 213 feet Height: 190 feet

**Height:** 197 feet on hind legs **Weight:** 33,000 **Powers:**Tusksand claw appendages, and horn. Mach 3 flight.

CONVERTED

ALLY

12, 13, 14

\* NOTE: TriStar's 1998

does not appear in this over

"Godzilla" was not produced by Toho Studios and, therefore,

**Weight:** 27.500 buzzsaw, hook-

horns, spikes on back and tail **Movies:** 12, 13 **Movies:** 2, 9, 10,

**Weight:** 25,300

**Powers:**Abdominal **Powers:** Electric bolts from arms Movie: 10 flight.

**Height:** 197 feet **Weight:** 52,800 **Powers:** Energy beams from eyes, Sulfuric acid mist.

**ENEMY** 

Height: 164 feet Height: 164 feet Weight: 27,500 Weight: 33,000 Powers: Mach 3 Powers: Energy flight, karate reflection eyes, moves, communi- jump kick, fangs, cates with claws. monsters. **Movie:** 13

ALLY

**KING KONG** ENEMY **Height:** 148 feet

**Weight:** 25,700 tons Powers: Rock throwing, electric current from fingers, judo flips.

MEGALON **Height:** 180 feet **Weight:** 44.000

tons bolt from horn, napalm bombs from mouth, drill hands, Mach 3

Movie: 13

**TITANOSAURUS ENEMY** Height: 197 feet Weight: 33,000

Powers: Lightning Powers: Cyclone tail, head butt. Movie: 15

**BIOLLANTE** Height: 394 feet

Weight: 220,000 Powers: Spines, radioactive acidic sap spray, choking vines.

**Movie:** 17

ENEMY

**BATTRA ENEMY Length:** 239 feet

Weight: 33,000 Powers: Prism beam from eyes Movie: 19

**Height:** 394 feet Weight: 88,000

**Powers:** Explosive micro-oxygen spray and laser Movie: 22

DESTOROYAH **GODZILLA ENEMY** Height: 328 feet **Weight:** 66,000

tons Powers: Atomic ray emitted from mouth, super regenerative powers, nuclear pulse

\*1991-99

KING **GHIDORAH** FNFMY

Height: 492 feet **Weight:** 88,000 beams from

Godzilla 2000

**180** feet

**Powers:** Gravity mouths, hurricane winds from wings. **Movies:** 5, 6, 9, 12, 14, 15, 18

**GODZILLA** FNFMY Height: 394 feet **Weight:** 165,000

Powers: Mega-buster ray, heat shield. laser eve beams. plasma grenade, missiles, flame

MECHA-

**MOTHRA CONVERTED ALLY** Length: 213 feet **Weight:** 22,000

Movies: 4, 5, 7,

tons Powers: Mach 3 flight, antenna blast rays, special scales reflect energy upon source.

CONVERTED ALLY Height: 164 feet **Weight:** 16.500 Powers: Mach 1.5 flight, wings cre-

**RODAN** 

ate windstorms. **Movies:** 5, 6, 9,

**FNFMY** Height: 394 feet Weight: 88,000 Powers: Space flight, swirling

SPACE-

**GODZILLA** 

corona beam emitted from the Wild and Crazy mouth, gravity tor-