Women in Film
These public domain films and TV shows feature women in strong, prominent roles as heroines and role models.

**African American Women:**

**The Devil’s Daughter**
59 min. Nina Mae McKinney runs afoul of voodoo in Jamaica.

**Dirty Gertie from Harlem**

**Sepia Cinderella** (1947) with Billy Daniels and Sheila Guyse. A struggling band leader’s rise to fame after overcoming many obstacles, including a bad-girl vs. good-girl situation.

**The Duke Is Tops (aka Bronze Venus)**
(1938) 63 min. Lena Horne plays a night club singer who gets a chance at Broadway.

**The Beulah Show (1950-1953)**
Six episodes of the first television series to feature black actors. Beulah is a Negro domestic in a white family who pulls the weekly family situations together with more common sense than all of the others. The role of Beulah was played by 3 distinguished black women: Ethel Waters, Hattie McDaniel and Louise Beavers.

**Get Christie Love**

**Lady Cocoa**
(1975) 93 min. Foxy Lady Cocoa (Lola Falana) is out to take down her mobster boyfriend.

**TNT Jackson**

**Velvet Smooth**
(1976) 93 min. Johnnie Hill. The female head of a detective agency is hired by a crime lord to figure out who’s taking his action.

**Miss Betty Boop!**
48 public domain Cartoons!

Adventure Serials & Westerns
THE PERILS OF PAULINE 1933 Evalyn Knapp 12 Chapters.
A famous scientist and his beautiful daughter travel to Indochina to find an ivory disc that has the formula for a deadly gas engraved on it. An evil doctor and his gang are also looking for it.


Devil on Horseback (Lili Damita, 1936)
Western starring a woman, Lili Damita, rather than a male hero.

Water Rustlers (Dorothy Page, 1939)
B-Western starring a woman, Dorothy Page. She is not just the heroine, she is the star above her male leading man.

The Torch (1951)
Paulette Godard is a fiery hispanic who opposes a rising rebel general who takes over her town.

Angel and the Badman (1947)
John Wayne western in which a Quaker girl played by Gail Russell makes him reform his badman ways.

Annie Oakley TV

Classic Television Series

Sheena, Queen of the Jungle
(1955) Jungle girl Sheena and a hunter guide Bob Rayburn fight to restore harmony in the jungle by opposing evil that invades their environment. 16 half-hour episodes.

Decoy
(1957) Beverly Garland plays an undercover police woman in this syndicated cop series that was filmed in New York City. 25 half-hour episodes.

I Married Joan

My Little Margie
(1952-1955) "My Little Margie" is the story of vivacious Margie Albright (Gale Storm) and father (Charles Farrell), a widowed executive at the NYC firm of Honeywell & Todd. 36 shows.
**Private Secretary**  
(1953-1957) Susie, played by Ann Sothern, is secretary to handsome talent agent Peter Sands (Don Porter) and keeps getting messed up in his private life. 16 shows.

**Loretta Young Show**  
(1953-1961) Long-running, half-hour drama anthology series hosted by actress Loretta Young. In addition to hosting the series, she played the lead in various episodes. 30 shows.

**Meet Corliss Archer**  
(1954) Pert blond teenager Corliss Archer (Ann Baker) must balance her life at school, her lovable but goofy boyfriend Dexter and her well-meaning but clueless parents. 36 episodes.

**The Lucy Show** (1962-1968) Lucille Ball slapstick classic with Gale Gordon, Vivian Vance and numerous Hollywood guest stars. 30 episodes are in the public domain.

**Betty White TV Shows**

**Life With Elizabeth**  
(1952-1955) With Betty White, Del Moore and announcer Jack Narz. This domestic comedy did not have episode titles. Each show consisted of three separate episodes in the life of a married couple, with the emphasis placed on gentle comedy and more talk than action. 27 episodes.

**Date With the Angels**  
(1957-1958) Domestic sitcom centered around young Los Angeles newlyweds Gus Angel (Bill Williams) and Vicki Angel (Betty White). Richard Deacon plays neighbor Roger Finley. 21 episodes.

**Feature Films**  - Comedy, drama, mystery, crime, etc.

**Heartbeat** (1946) 102m. Pickpocket Ginger Rogers in Paris falls for Jean-Pierre Aumont.

**His Girl Friday** (1940) 92m. Editor Cary Grant vs. reporter Rosalind Russell out to capture big story!

**Indiscreet** (1931) Gloria Swanson jeopardizes the relationship with the man she loves when a no-account from her past shows up.

**My Dear Secretary** (1948) Writer Kirk Douglas hires Laraine Day to help out. 95 min.

**My Man Godfrey** (1936) Carole Lombard, Alice Brady, Gail Patrick Director: Gregory La Cava. 95 min.

**Nothing Sacred** (1937) Color, 77m. Carole Lombard battles Fredric March!

**The Rage of Paris** (1938) 78m. Douglas Fairbanks Jr. and Louis Hayward battle over Danielle Darrieux

**The Stork Club** (1945) 98m. Night club singer Betty Hutton befriends rich patron Barry Fitzgerald.

**That Uncertain Feeling** (1941) 84m. Ernst Lubitsch romp with married Merle Oberon getting mixed up with Melvyn Douglas and Burgess Meredith.

**The Admiral Was a Lady** (1950) 87m. Edmond O'Brien, Wanda Hendrix. Ex-WAVE encounters four fun-loving, work-hating men, all of whom want to marry her.
**Three Broadway Girls** (1932) 79m. Joan Blondell, Ina Claire, Madge Evans are money hungry women who have sugar daddies who keep them in the lap of luxury.


**Made for Each Other** (1939) 92m. James Stewart, Charles Coburn, Carole Lombard. Problems of a young couple with a baby.

**Three Guys Named Mike** (1951) 90m. Jane Wyman dates 3 men named Mike. With Van Johnson, Howard Keel.

**Lovers and Liars** (1980, Italy) Color, 96m. Goldie Hawn. It's about this world-weary, chain smoker, bag-eyed, married guy, who drives to his dad's house (the dad is dying) and takes Goldie along -- he finds her at his mistress's house.

**So's Your Aunt Emma!** (1942) 61m. A dizzy old spinster (Zasu Pitts) gets involved in the boxing racket and gangland murders and is falsely accused of being notorious murderer "Ma Parker."

**The Animal Kingdom** (1932) 85m. Leslie Howard, Myrna Loy and marital discord.


**Carnival Story** (1954) Color, 98m. High-diver Lyle Bettger takes young Anne Baxter on to teach her the ropes, but a romantic triangle develops.

**Cause for Alarm** (1951) 72m. Loretta Young. Invalid husband claims wife trying to kill him, then dies.

**Guest in the House** (1944) 121m. Anne Baxter, Ralph Bellamy in gripping melodrama about neurotic young woman in household of her betrothed


**Sin Takes a Holiday** (1930) 81m. Married Constance Bennett falls in love with Basil Rathbone in Paris.

**Smash-Up -- Story of a Woman** (1947) 103m. Susan Hayward (Oscar nomination) is excellent as an insecure night club singer who weds a radio star, then sinks into alcoholism.

**Tulsa** (1949) Color, 90m. Cattle woman Susan Hayward enters the wildcat oil business to avenge the death of her father, but loses her values along the way.

**Woman on the Run** (1950) 77m. Ann Sheridan, Dennis O'Keefe. Eyewitness to murder pursued around San Francisco.

**Woman to Woman** (1929) 77m. Betty Compson. Officer weds French ballerina, then gets amnesia.

**Algiers** (1938) 99m. Hedy Lamarr and Charles Boyer have torrid romance in the Casbah.

**Indiscretion of an American Wife** (1953) 63m. American Jennifer Jones meets her Italian lover, Montgomery Clift, one last time in Rome's railway station. Directed by Vittorio De Sica.

**Love Affair** (1939) 87m. Irene Dunne and Charles Boyer meet on shipboard. Plans to continue the romance meet tragedy.

**Made for Each Other** (1939) 93m. Jimmy Stewart and Carole Lombard are a young married couple struggling with jobs, illness and lack of money.

**Mr. Imperium** (1951) Color, 87m. Lana Turner, Enzio Pinza romance.

**Of Human Bondage** (1934) 83m. The darker side of obsessive love finds Leslie Howard inexplicably pursuing an affair with vulgar waitress Bette Davis.

**Penny Serenade** (1941) 120 min. Classic tearjerker directed by George Stevens. Cary Grant and Irene Dunne, meet, love, marry and then drift apart when their unborn baby dies.

**A Star is Born** (1937) Color, 111 min. Star-struck Janet Gaynor gets a break in Hollywood thanks to movie star Fredric March. They fall in love and marry, but her star rises as his falls.

**Swing High, Swing Low** (1937) 95m. Carole Lombard and Fred MacMurray fall in and out of love.

**A Farewell to Arms** (1932) 78m. Gary Cooper, Helen Hayes in Hemingway WW-I classic.

**Jane Eyre** (1970) Color, 110m. George C. Scott stars as the brooding Rochester in Bronte’s classic English tale, with Susannah York as Jane Eyre.

**The Little Princess** (1939) Color, 91m. Shirley Temple is orphan when her father goes to war during Victorian era.

**Rain** (1932) 90m. Somerset Maugham’s tawdry South Seas tale. Joan Crawford is trollop Sadie Thompson and the target of preacher Walter Huston’s reform.

**The Scarlet Letter** (1934) 70m. Colleen Moore stars in Nathaniel Hawthorne classic.

**City Without Men** (1943) 75m. Linda Darnell, Edgar Buchanan. Stories of female residents in boarding house near prison.

**Ma Barker’s Killer Brood** (1960) 89m. Lurene Tuttle, Tristram Coffin. Ma Barker and sons terrorize South with crime in 1930s.

**Nancy Drew, Reporter** (1939) 68m. Bonita Granville plays the famous teenage sleuth.

**Swamp Women** (1956) Color, 67m. Marie Windsor, Beverly Garland. 3 female prisoners seek diamonds hidden in swamp.

**Big Town After Dark** (1947) 69m. Crime reporter Hillary Brooke opposes local crime boss.

**Blonde Ice** (1948) 73m. Leslie Brooks marries wealthy men who die mysteriously.
**The Hitch-Hiker** (1953) 71m. Edmond O'Brien and Frank Lovejoy out for a hunting trip are taken over by a murderous fugitive. No women in cast, but directed by Ida Lupino.

**Lady Gangster** (1942) 62m. Faye Emerson, Julie Bishop, Jackie Gleason. The title tells it all.

**Lady in the Death House** (1944) 55m. Story of woman on death row told by letter she wrote on day of her scheduled execution.

**The Naked Kiss** (1964) 92m. Constance Towers is a prostitute trying to start new in a small town. Directed by Sam Fuller.

**Please Murder Me** (1956) 78m. Angela Lansbury, Raymond Burr in homicide yarn.

**Strange Love of Martha Ivers** (1946) 117m. Gripping melodrama with Barbara Stanwyck bound to her husband by a crime she committed long ago. Kirk Douglas' film debut!

**Lady of Burlesque** (1943) 91m. Stripper Barbara Stanwyck traps killer in burlesque house.

**The Lady Confesses** (1949) 70m. Fiancée investigates mysterious death of her intended's first wife.

**Shriek in the Night** (1933) 66m. Ginger Rogers and Lyle Talbot and murder.

**The Thirteenth Guest** (1932) 69m. Ginger Rogers, Lyle Talbott involved in murder mystery.

**Esther and the King** (1960, color, Italy) 109 min. Joan Collins stars in the biblical story about Esther, who must risk her life to save her people from the charmingly wicked prince Haman.


**Divorce His** 1973 90m. Color. Elizabeth Taylor, Richard Burton. Breakup of a marriage told from perspectives of both the husband and wife.


**Driver's Seat** (1971) 102m. Color. Elizabeth Taylor. Italy. Mental spinster searches Rome for someone to kill her.

**Eliza's Horoscope** 1975 Canada 120m. Color. Elizabeth Moorman, Tommy Lee Jones. Young woman arrives in Montreal looking for love.

