

I'm not a bot



Politics simultaneously are and aren't the thing in "Fighter," a Bollywood military drama that takes heavy inspiration from "Top Gun: Maverick." Released in time for India's Republic Day, "Fighter" explicitly recalls both the 2019 Pulwama attack that, in real life, left 40 Indian military police dead in Kashmir, as well as the successive Balakot air strike that, depending on who you believe, either killed no one or a bunch of anti-Indian extremists. Using these real-life events as the pretext for a saber-rattling crowd-pleaser isn't surprising given the rise of nationalist sentiments both in Hindi-language pop cinema and Modi-era India. Then again, surprises aren't the main draw in "Fighter," whose creators stick closely to formulaic story beats and other Bollywood-centric melodramatic tropes. Much of the movie focuses on the camaraderie and romance that unites two exemplary Indian Air Force pilots, played by co-leads Hrithik Roshan and Deepika Padukone, and a few of their comrades. "Fighter" still inevitably concludes with an overheated stand-off in Pakistani Occupied Kashmir, as well as a teasing threat that the next fight could be in. "Indian Occupied Pakistan." "Fighter" was a hit this past weekend, despite being banned from theatrical release across the Gulf countries, including the United Arab Emirates. The makers of "Fighter" attempt a few standard dodges, as far as their characters' motivating nationalism. It's not the Pakistani people who are vilified, according to the movie, but rather a group of India-hating terrorists, led by unapologetic leader Azhar Akhtar (Rishabh Sawhney), and oh yeah, the Pakistani Air Force, since they let Akhtar's group cross the Line of Control that separates Indian and Pakistani territory. In this light, it makes sense that the makers of "Fighter" used the Pulwama attack as the model for their fictionalized dramatic catalyst, since it left 40 Indian soldiers dead and wasn't directly caused by a nation armed with nuclear weapons. In real life, Modi's administration has been accused of ignoring or even suppressing intelligence reports that might have prevented the Pulwama strike. You'll find no such criticism of the Indian government or its army in "Fighter," as one might expect from a movie that's clearly modeled after a "Top Gun" sequel. The movie's Indian Air Force drama is also pretty by the numbers, from its romantic musical numbers to its "Top Gun"-style chain of command Air Force drama, which mostly concerns flag-waving rebel pilot Shamsheer "Patty" Pathania (Roshan) and disapproving Group Captain Rakesh "Rocky" Jai Singh (Anil Kapoor). Patty and Rocky butt heads, but they inevitably pull it together for a dangerous mission, which climaxes with a hilariously over-the-top game of chicken. It's not an especially realistic confrontation, but neither are the preceding scenes where Patty and his fellow Air Force pilots both work and play hard. A representatively energetic, but unexceptional musical number features lyrics like, "The lions are on the prowl tonight." Roshan's charisma is put to work here, especially when Patty takes a bet and tries to charm a plate of biryani away from a pair of hungry (and notably overweight) strangers. That's the level of emotional depth in "Fighter," a movie where the main bad guy has one bloodshot eye and where the airplanes are mostly computer-generated, particularly when they're airborne. "Fighter" is also fairly typical in that, while Padukone hits all of her marks, she doesn't really get to do as much as Roshan. He mostly succeeds in selling the emotional gravity of this pop corn cheesy material, which often feels like a throwback to the recent past, when mass-audience-oriented Bollywood star vehicles almost completely dominated the Indian box office. Roshan shows off his chiseled abs and executes simple dance moves with ease. He's played less than lovable characters in recent years, as in "War," an overstuffed 2019 action caper helmed by "Fighter" director Siddharth Anand. But Roshan's on steadier ground in "Fighter" as a dependable, well-assembled good guy with a generic lust for revenge. Anand scored a big hit last year with "Pathaan" by hitching himself to Shah Rukh Khan's runaway comeback train. But in Roshan, Anand seems to have found a better collaborator, or maybe a better showcase for his star. Unlike Khan, Roshan makes viewers lean in, which goes a long way in both Patty's musical numbers and aerial fights. In both cases, Roshan delivers a full performance with just his signature hazel green eyes. With all that said, "Fighter" might credibly be retitled "Believer," given how much of its drama tests Patty's conviction that India will always meet and defeat its enemies. If you judge the movie on its loaded terms, you might still find its extra aerial chases to be thrilling, especially when seen and heard in a decent multiplex. "Fighter" never strays far from the path that other movies like it have previously charted, but it still delivers most of what it promises. Want to watch "Fighter" in the comfort of your own home? Tracking down a streaming service to buy, rent, download, or view the Siddharth Anand-directed movie via subscription can be a challenge, so here at MovieFone want to do the heavy lifting. Below, you'll find a number of top-tier streaming and cable services - including rental, purchase, and subscription alternatives - along with the availability of "Fighter" on each platform when they are available. Now, before we get into all the details of how you can watch "Fighter" right now, here are some particulars about the Marflix Pictures, Viacom18 Studios, Prime Focus drama flick. Released January 25th, 2024, "Fighter" stars Hrithik Roshan, Deepika Padukone, Anil Kapoor, Karan Singh Grover. The R movie has a runtime of about 2 hr 47 min, and received a user score of 61 (out of 100) on IMDb, which assembled reviews from 132 respected users. Want to know what the movie's about? Here's the plot: "As India faces a militant attack in Kashmir, the country's best combat aviators join forces under a reckless yet brilliant squadron leader to form 'Air Dragons', faces mortal dangers and their inner demons." "Fighter" is currently available to rent, purchase, or stream via subscription on Netflix Standard with Ads, and Netflix. "Fighter" offers gritty action and strong character development, veering away from clichés. The cast has great chemistry, especially between Roshan and Padukone, which adds depth to the story beyond the action. Patty's character arc is a particular standout, grounding the film beyond a classic good vs. bad narrative. Siddharth Anand and action films are drawn together like a moth to the flame. His back catalog of epics testifies to this. That is precisely the reason why, when Fighter was announced, it was of little surprise that the prolific director would be getting behind the yoke on this one. Coming hot on the heels of the runaway hit that was last year's record-shattering Pathaan, starring Bollywood sensation Shah Rukh Khan, Fighter was always going to have high stakes attached to it. Pathaan was the first bite of the Tom Cruise-esque apple and it landed divinely with audiences globally clearly hungry for more Bollywood action. What is "Fighter" About? At first glance, Fighter seemingly plucks from the same fruit bowl as Pathaan, practically screaming that it is influenced by Top Gun. However, it quickly finds its own feet as it veers away from its lighter counterpart and opts for a grittier story. There is a clear intent that this story be taken seriously with everything from the aerial action to the lighter character moments remaining cloaked in a cloud of uncertainty. We then dive right into a terrorist threat that must be combated by the elite Indian Air Force: the Air Dragons. The film boasts star power of epic proportions in its squadron with Hrithik Roshan as leader Shamsheer "Patty" Pathania, Deepika Padukone as Minal "Minni" Rathore, and Anil Kapoor as Rakesh Jai "Rocky" Singh. The supporting cast of Karan Singh Grover and Akshay Oberoi add hefty value in making the unit feel cohesive. Almost immediately, Patty establishes his character as an arrogant but just likable enough person while, in contrast, Minni brings a warmth and confidence that allows her to take him to task on his attitude. Rocky sits somewhere on his own with an air of immediate respect attached more to his presence than his reputation. However, it is clear there is a tangible tension between him and Patty that adds a layer of intrigue. While vast in scope, Fighters perfectly weaponizes the magnitude of its stars and utilizes their shared likability to build a real sense of camaraderie among the squadron. This emotional investment proves vital. The first half of the film takes its time setting the scene, relying heavily on powerful action sequences that win more on visual stimulation than depth. However, this is easily forgotten when the film takes flight in the second half with both the cast and story kicking into a new gear by ramping up the heart-pumping action. Image via Viacom18 Studios All the work put in by Anand in the first hour makes sense as these little threads successfully pull the story together. Whilst Patty's face screams "carrying the weight of the world" from his first appearance, it's not until the second half of the film that audiences really get to explore the weight of his war trauma and how it manifests itself in the smallest behaviors. Patty's lowest moments, his deeply embedded guilt and reckless self-loathing, are when we get the most out of the character, as he is confronted by the horror of history repeating itself. His tale of deliverance takes center stage in the latter half and this is what ultimately grounds the film, offering a point of investment beyond the classic good versus bad narrative. In the midst of the Air Dragons taking down the rising terrorist threat, led by straight-haired villain Azhar Akhtar (Rishabh Sawhney), Fighter finds a way to organically tear down gender discrimination through Minni's lense, a woman who went for her dreams despite being told by her father that the Air Force is not made for women. This is encapsulated poetically in her speech about how "we're all the same in the sky." It is also supplemented by Patty later when he affirms that "the enemies' bullets don't discriminate based on gender, so why do we?" Much of Patty and Minni's relationship is laced into the quieter moments, rather than the typical Bollywood love story. This makes it feel all the more authentic. Perhaps most vitally, though, the film doesn't feel like it's leaning on their romance. Instead, it's a worthy addition to the whole. Fighter inevitably struggles when the dialogue becomes smothered in superpatriotism and dances its way into the same India v Pakistan narrative which, at times, verges on tiresome. Given that the basis of the film is built around Azhar's terrorist mission, a lackluster rationale is given to audiences behind his hatred for India making him believable but relatively vanilla compared to his on-screen counterparts. Mostly, he just comes off as angry. Thankfully, the film manages to pull audiences back by breathing new life into the narrative when it goes out of its way to challenge the archaic, prejudiced notions of terrorism being tied to a specific country or faith. At times, it's easy for the CGI to feel overdone, but the performances of the cast makes the stunts, even at their most audacious, feel plausible. Roshan in particular shines here, with much of his performance coming from his blinding green eyes, particularly during sky sequences. The subtle transitions in and out of point-of-view camerawork add to the overall experience. In its greatest moments, Fighter offers audiences an adrenaline thrillride through high-octane sky sequences and a heartier story about redemption in the face of hopelessness. While it will undeniably be a hit with action fans, it's the narrative that sees it soar. Pros & Cons The film offers gritty action and strong character development. Hrithik Roshan and Deepika Padukone have great chemistry together. The film offers a challenge to some of its more archaic ideas. Some of the film's CGI can be overdone. The dialogue can become smothered in superpatriotism. Fighter is in select theaters in the U.S. Click below for showtimes. GET TICKETS A reckless yet brilliant squadron leader and his team of elite fighter pilots face mortal dangers and inner demons as they unite for a deadly mission.Starring: Hrithik Roshan, Deepika Padukone, Anil KapoorTRAILER: FighterIndian, Hindi-Language Movies, Bollywood Movies, Military Movies, Action & Adventure MoviesExplosive, Adrenaline Rush, Military, Bollywood, Exciting, Action & Adventure, MovieEnglish, Hindi [Original]Hrithik Roshan, Deepika Padukone, Anil Kapoor, Karan Singh Grover, Akshay Oberoi, Rishabh Sawhney, Sanjeeva Shaikh, Ashutosh Rana, Geeta Agrawal Sharma, Talat AzizSniper, G.R.I.T. - Global Response & Intelligence TeamTrainwreck, The Astroworld TragedyTitan: The Ocean Gate Submersible DisasterFor your phone, tablet, laptop and TVFor your phone, tablet, laptop and TVImmersive sound (spatial audio)For your phone, tablet, laptop and TV Fighter (2024) is an exhilarating Bollywood aerial action-drama film helmed and scripted by renowned filmmaker Siddharth Anand. The film tells the story of a group of skilled Air Force pilots who are ready to sacrifice their lives to save the nation. The film received mixed responses from Indian audiences. Here's how you can watch and stream Fighter (2024) via Netflix. Yes, Fighter (2024) is available to watch via streaming on Netflix. The film is set during the dark era of the Indian Pulwama Attacks. The Indian Air Force eventually made an elite unit called the Air Dragons. This unit is primarily and precisely assembled for combatting the likely massive Pakistani terrorist attacks in Srinagar Valley. Group Captain Rakesh Jai Singh is assigned to supervise the Air Dragons. Fighter (2024) movie boasts an ensemble cast with Anil Kapoor as Group Captain Rakesh Jai Singh, Hrithik Roshan as Squadron Leader Shamsheer "Patty" Pathania, and, Deepika Padukone as Squadron Leader Minal "Minni" Rathore, with several others. Fighter (2024) is available to watch on Netflix. Netflix is a globally leading OTT giant with a freshly brewed salad of countless aerial action-drama films in multiple languages for ardent filmy fanatics worldwide. You can watch via Netflix by following these steps: Visit netflix.com/signup Choose a payment plan from the following: \$6.99 per month (standard with Ads) \$15.49 per month (Standard) \$22.99 per month (Premium) Enter your email address and password to create an account Enter your chosen payment method The cheapest Netflix Standard with Ads Plan provides all but a few of its movies and TV shows. However, it will show ads before or during most of its content. You can watch in Full HD and on two supported devices at a time. Its Standard Plan provides the same but is completely ad-free while also allowing users to download content on two supported devices with an additional option to add one extra member who doesn't live in the same household. The Premium Plan provides the same as above, though for four supported devices at a time, with content displaying in Ultra HD. Users get to download content on up to six supported devices at a time and have the option to add up to two extra members who don't live in the same household. Netflix spatial audio is also supported. Fighter (2024) synopsis is as follows: "Top IAF aviators come together in the face of imminent danger, to battle the country's internal and external forces. As militant activities were going out of control, a new unit, Air Dragons was commissioned by the Air Headquarters, as first responders to any hostile activity, comprising of the best combat aviators handpicked from across the Indian Air Force. FIGHTER unfolds the story of Patty and his mate's camaraderie, brotherhood, and going through the highs and lows of their internal and external battles. Director Siddharth Anand Producer Siddharth Anand, Mamta Bhatia, Ramon Chibb, Anku Pande Screenwriter Ramon Chibb, Siddharth Anand, Ramon Chibb Distributor Viva Entertainment Production Co Marflix, Prime Focus Media, Betterfly Films, Viacom18 Studios Genre Action, Mystery & Thriller Original Language Hindi Release Date (Theaters) Jan 25, 2024, Limited Box Office (Gross USA) \$4.1M Runtime 2h 40m Sound Mix Dolby Atmos Aspect Ratio Digital 2.39:1 Fighters share an unparalleled mastery with weapons and armor, and a thorough knowledge of the skills of combat. They are well acquainted with death, both meeting it out and starting it defiantly in the face. You must have a Dexterity or Strength score of 13 or higher in order to multiclass in or out of this class. The Fighter Level Proficiency Bonus Features 1st +2 Fighting Style, Second Wind 2nd +2 Action Surge (x1) 3rd +2 Martial Archetype 4th +2 Ability Score Improvement, Martial Versatility (Optional) 5th +3 Extra Attack (x1) 6th +3 Ability Score Improvement, Martial Versatility (Optional) 7th +3 Martial Archetype feature 8th +3 Ability Score Improvement, Martial Versatility (Optional) 9th +4 Indomitable (x1) 10th +4 Martial Archetype feature 11th +4 Extra Attack (x2) 12th +4 Ability Score Improvement, Martial Versatility (Optional) 13th +5 Indomitable (x2) 14th +5 Ability Score Improvement, Martial Versatility (Optional) 15th +5 Martial Archetype feature 16th +5 Ability Score Improvement, Martial Versatility (Optional) 17th +6 Action Surge (x2), Indomitable (x3) 18th +6 Martial Archetype feature 19th +6 Ability Score Improvement, Martial Versatility (Optional) 20th +6 Extra Attack (x3) As a fighter, you gain the following class features. Hit Points Hit Dice: 1d10 per fighter level Hit Points at 1st Level: 10 + your Constitution modifier per fighter level after 1st Proficiencies Armor: All armor, shields Weapons: Simple weapons, martial weapons Tools: None Saving Throws: Strength, Constitution Skills: Choose two skills from Acrobatics, Animal Handling, Athletics, History, Insight, Intimidation, Perception, and Survival Equipment You start with the following equipment, in addition to the equipment granted by your background: (a) chain mail or (b) leather, longbow, and 20 arrows (a) a martial weapon and a shield or (b) two martial weapons (a) a light crossbow and 20 bolts or (b) two handaxes (a) a dungeoneer's pack or (b) an explorer's pack Fighting Style You adopt a particular style of fighting as your specialty. Choose one of the following options. You can't take a Fighting Style option more than once, even if you later get to choose again. Archery (PHB). You gain a +2 bonus to attack rolls you make with ranged weapons. Blind Fighting (TCE). You have blindsight with a range of 10 feet. Within that range, you can effectively see anything that isn't behind total cover, even if you're blinded or in darkness. Moreover, you can see an invisible creature within that range, unless the creature successfully hides from you. Defense (PHB). While you are wearing armor, you gain a +1 bonus to AC. Dueling (PHB). When you are wielding a melee weapon in one hand and no other weapons, you gain a +2 bonus to damage rolls with that weapon. Great Weapon Fighting (PHB). When you roll a 1 or 2 on a damage die for an attack you make with a melee weapon that you are wielding with two hands, you can reroll the die and must use the new roll, even if the new roll is a 1 or a 2. The weapon must have the two-handed or versatile property for you to gain this benefit. Interception (TCE). When a creature you can see hits a target, other than you, within 5 feet of you with an attack, you can use your reaction to reduce the damage the target takes by 1d10 + your proficiency bonus (to a minimum of 0 damage). You must be wielding a shield or a simple or martial weapon to use this reaction. Protection (PHB). When a creature you can see attacks a target other than you that is within 5 feet of you, you can use your reaction to impose disadvantage on the attack roll. You must be wielding a shield. Superior Technique (TCE). You learn one maneuver of your choice from among those available to the Battle Master archetype. If a maneuver you use requires your target to make a saving throw to resist the maneuver's effects, the saving throw DC equals 8 + your proficiency bonus + your Strength or Dexterity modifier (your choice.) You gain one superiority die, which is a d6 (this die is added to any superiority dice you have from another source). This die is used to fuel your maneuvers. A superiority die is expended when you use it. You regain your expended superiority dice when you finish a short or long rest. Thrown Weapon Fighting (TCE). You can draw a weapon that has the thrown property as part of the attack you make with the weapon. In addition, when you hit with a ranged attack using a thrown weapon, you gain a +2 bonus to the damage roll. Two-Weapon Fighting (PHB). When you engage in two-weapon fighting, you can add your ability modifier to the damage of the second attack. Unarmed Fighting (TCE). Your unarmed strikes can deal bludgeoning damage equal to 1d6 + your Strength modifier on a hit. If you aren't wielding any weapons or a shield when you make the attack roll, the d6 becomes a d8. At the start of each of your turns, you can deal 1d4 bludgeoning damage to one creature grappled by you. Close Quarters Shooter (UA). When making a ranged attack while you are within 5 feet of a hostile creature, you do not have disadvantage on the attack roll. Your ranged attacks ignore half cover and three-quarters cover against targets within 30 feet of you. You have a +1 bonus to attack rolls on ranged attacks. Mariner (UA). As long as you are not wearing heavy armor or using a shield, you have a swimming speed and a climbing speed equal to your normal speed, and you gain a +1 bonus to armor class. Tunnel Fighter (UA). As a bonus action, you can enter a defensive stance that lasts until the start of your next turn. While in your defensive stance, you can make opportunity attacks without using your reaction, and you can use your reaction to make a melee attack against a creature that moves more than 5 feet while within your reach. Second Wind You have a limited well of stamina that you can draw on to protect yourself from harm. On your turn, you can use a bonus action to regain hit points equal to 1d10 + your fighter level. Once you use this feature, you must finish a short or long rest before you can use it again. Action Surge Starting at 2nd level, you can push yourself beyond your normal limits for a moment. On your turn, you can take one additional action. Once you use this feature, you must finish a short or long rest before you can use it again. Starting at 17th level, you can use it twice before a rest, but only once on the same turn. Martial Archetype At 3rd level, you choose an archetype that you strive to emulate in your combat styles and techniques. The archetype you choose grants you features at 3rd level and again at 7th, 10th, 15th, and 18th level. Ability Score Improvement When you reach 4th level, and again at 6th, 8th, 12th, 14th, 16th, and 19th level, you can increase one ability score of your choice by 2, or you can increase two ability scores of your choice by 1. As normal, you can't increase an ability score above 20 using this feature. Martial Versatility (Optional) Whenever you reach a level in this class that grants the Ability Score Improvement feature, you can do one of the following, as you shift the focus of your martial practice: Replace a fighting style you know with another fighting style available to fighters. If you know any maneuvers from the Battle Master archetype, you can replace one maneuver you know with a different maneuver. Extra Attack Beginning at 5th level, you can attack twice, instead of once, whenever you take the Attack action on your turn. The number of attacks increases to three when you reach 11th level in this class and to four when you reach 20th level in this class. Indomitable Beginning at 9th level, you can reroll a saving throw that you fail. If you do so, you must use the new roll, and you can't use this feature again until you finish a long rest. You can use this feature twice between long rests starting at 13th level and three times between long rests starting at 17th level.