

Starsky & Hutch



Starsky & Hutch Genre

- Action
- Crime
- Drama
- Mystery

Created by William Blinn Starring David Soul Paul Michael Glaser Antonio Fargas Bernie Hamilton Theme music composer Lalo Schiffrin (S1) Tom Scott (S2, S4) Mark Snow (S3) Composers

- J. J. Johnson (S1)
- Andrew Kulberg (S4)

Country of origin United States Original language English No. of seasons 4 No. of episodes 93 (list of episodes) Production Executive producers

- Aaron Spelling
- Leonard Goldberg

Producer Joseph T. Naar Cinematography Travers Hill (S1–2) Keith C. Smith (S3) Eduardo J. Ricci (S4) Editors George W. Brooks (S1–3) Howard Kunin (S4) Running time 45–48 minutes Production companies Spelling-Goldberg Productions Columbia Pictures Television Distributor Sony Pictures Television Release Original network ABC Audio format Monaural Original release April 30, 1975 – May 15, 1979

Starsky & Hutch is an American action television series,^[1] which consisted of a 72-minute pilot movie (originally aired as a Movie of the Week entry) and 92 episodes of 50 minutes each. The show was created by William Blinn (inspired by the success of the then recent movie *Busting*), produced by Spelling-Goldberg Productions, and broadcast from April 1975 (pilot movie) to August 1979 on the ABC network. It was distributed by Columbia Pictures Television in the United States and, originally, Metromedia Producers Corporation and later on 20th Television in Canada and some other parts of the world. Sony Pictures Television is now the worldwide distributor for the series. The series also inspired a theatrical film and a video game.

Overview[edit]

The series' protagonists were two Southern California police detectives: David Michael Starsky (Paul Michael Glaser), the dark-haired, Brooklyn transplant and U.S. Army veteran, with a street-wise manner and intense, sometimes childlike moodiness; and Kenneth Richard "Hutch" Hutchinson (David Soul), the divorced,^[2] blond, Duluth, Minnesota, native with a more reserved and intellectual approach. Under the radio call sign "Zebra Three", they were known for usually tearing around the streets of fictional Bay City, California. Much of the series was shot on location in the Los Angeles beach community of San Pedro. The building that was used as the Metropolitan Division police headquarters in the first season is now San Pedro's City Hall.

The characters and even some plot points were based on real-life New York City detectives, Lou Telano and John Sepe, who gained notoriety and commendations for their unconventional but effective undercover police work. The show's production team spent considerable time with the two detectives during their daily routines. Lou Telano and John Sepe later sued Aaron Spelling's production company and settled out of court for \$10,000 each.

The car[edit]

The vehicle of choice was Starsky's two-door Ford Gran Torino, which was bright red, with a large white vector stripe on each side.

Approximately four different cars were used for filming. Earlier shots had red wing mirrors, except the pilot which had silver mirrors, usually for long shots or footage used in later scenes, close ups and later episodes had silver wing mirrors. The Torino was nicknamed the "Striped Tomato" by Hutch in the episode "Snowstorm", and fans subsequently referred to the car by that nickname, too.[citation needed] However, this moniker didn't come from the writers, but it came from a real-life comment that Glaser made. In a segment titled *Starsky & Hutch: Behind the Badge* that was featured on the first season DVD collection, Glaser stated that when he was first shown the Torino by series producer Aaron Spelling, he sarcastically said to Soul, "That thing looks like a striped tomato!" In characteristic contrast, Hutch's vehicle was a battered tan 1973 Ford Galaxie 500. It occasionally appeared when the duo needed separate vehicles, or for undercover work, but the duo's cover was often blown because Hutch's vehicle had a humorous glitch: when its driver's side door was opened, the horn would go off, instantly drawing attention. It was also noticeable due to the severely cluttered back seat, so cluttered that there was no room to transport both prisoners and the two detectives simultaneously.

Supporting characters[edit]

The detectives' main confidential informant was the street-wise, ethically ambiguous, "jive-talking" Huggy Bear (Antonio Fargas), who often dressed in a flashy manner and operated his own bar (first named "Huggy Bear's", and later, "The Pits"). The duo's boss was the gruff, no-nonsense-but-fair Captain Harold C. Dobby (Bernie Hamilton in the series, and gravel-voiced Richard Ward in the pilot).

Huggy's immense popularity with viewers caused producers Spelling and Goldberg to consider giving actor Fargas his own TV series. The second-season episode "Huggy Bear and the Turkey" was the test pilot for a proposed spin-off with Huggy and his friend, former Sheriff "Turkey" Turquet (Dale Robinette) becoming private investigators; however, this premise proved unpopular with viewers, and a spin-off never materialized. In the episode, it was revealed that Huggy's last name is Brown (no clue as to his first name was given, though). Two series characters were named for people from William Blinn's past: Starsky was the name of a high-school friend, and Huggy Bear was a local disc jockey.

Series creator William Blinn first used the name Huggy Bear on-screen for a character, also a confidential informant, in an episode penned by Blinn for the TV series *The Rookies* during the 1973 second season, "Prayers Unanswered Prayers Unheard", there, played by actor Johnny Brown.

Seasons 1 and 2[edit]

In contrast to police characters on U.S. TV in prior years, Starsky and Hutch were open with physical gestures of friendly/brotherly affection toward one another, often declaring that they trusted only each other (in an "us against the world"-type sense). While likely "normal" by American social standards since the 1990s, such body language conflicted with 1970s norms of (emotionally restrained) masculinity. In a show documentary tape made during the show's run that can be found on YouTube, the narrator intones that some Hollywood industry types referred to the characters as "French kissing prime-time homos".[3] Soul verified this statement in a 1999 cast reunion interview in the United Kingdom.[4]

Many fans were attracted not just by the characters, but the quality of writing during the first two seasons (despite the fact that the majority of first-season stories were actually existing scripts that were merely adapted to fit the series). The second-season episode "Long Walk Down a Short Dirt Road", featured country star Lynn Anderson as a singer being stalked by a deranged person; it was based upon a real-life incident involving country music legend Dolly Parton. The part was written with Parton in mind, but Anderson wound up playing the role.

Season 1: *Starsky & Hutch* aired on Wednesday nights at 10 p.m. and aired against *Kate McShane* on CBS and the second season law drama *Petrocelli* on NBC. *Starsky & Hutch* had no trouble beating its competition and finished #16 with a 22.5 share in the A.C. Nielsen Ratings.

Season 2: *Starsky & Hutch* was moved to Saturday night for the second season and was up against tough competition on CBS with the *Mary Tyler Moore Show* followed by *The Bob Newhart Show*. NBC had *NBC Saturday Night at the Movies*. Although the show lost some of their viewers from the move from the Wednesday night time slot from the previous season, *Starsky & Hutch* held its own, finishing #34 with a 19.6 rating in the Nielsens.

Season 3[edit]

In 1977, a rising concern in America about violence on TV, along with Glaser's own concerns about the level of violence in the series, forced the writers to reduce the violent "action" scenes, with more romantically and socially themed storylines, and play-up the "buddy-buddy" aspect of the show's leads even more. At the same time, the lead actors—Glaser in particular—became jaded with the general theme; these and other factors contributed to the fading popularity of the series.

Glaser indicated several times that he wanted to get out of his contract and quit the series; he even sued the producers to force a release from his contract before the start of the third season. It seemed that he would not be returning for filming, so to fill the presumed void, the character "Officer Linda Baylor" (played by Roz Kelly) was created, and a number of alternative scripts featuring her instead of Starsky were written (whether the show's name would have remained the same is unknown). After being granted more creative control over scripts, opportunities to direct episodes, and a per-episode pay raise (to \$35,000, up from \$5,000), Glaser returned to the show. Ultimately, Officer Baylor only appeared in one episode (alongside both Starsky and Hutch): the Play Misty for Me-inspired episode, "Fatal Charm".

Despite this major change in the tone of the show, with a lot of the violence reduced and more of a focus on the friendship of the two leads, viewership remained steady during the season. From September to December 1977, the show stayed in its Saturday-night time slot, now up against *The Jeffersons* and *The Tony Randall Show* on CBS and *NBC Saturday Night at the Movies*. It was the first lead-in to *The Love Boat* and after its immediate success, *The Love Boat* was moved up an hour in January 1978 into the 9:00 slot. Having been displaced on Saturday nights, *Starsky & Hutch* moved back to its original Wednesday-night time slot of 10 p.m. The ratings dropped a little bit, but *Starsky & Hutch* finished #33 (tied with ABC's *Lucan*) with a 19.2 Nielsen rating.

Season 4[edit]

Glaser again voiced his desires to leave during the fourth and final season. This time, Starsky's wayward younger brother Nick (John Herzfeld) was introduced, in the episode "Starsky's Brother". It was intended that if Glaser was to quit, that the reformed Nick would take David's place on the police force (and allow the series to avoid a title change). Ultimately, the disgruntled Glaser decided to return, yet again, to finish out the season. Although a fifth season was planned, increasing production costs, Glaser's persistent (and off-publicized) desire to move on, and declining ratings, brought an end to the series.

The final episode, "Sweet Revenge" (which has Starsky fighting for his life after being gunned down), originally had its co-lead dying in the early drafts. The producers decided to have the character survive, as it was felt that a dead Starsky would disrupt the continuity of reruns/syndication, and preclude the option of the producers' reviving the series in the near future. Starsky & Hutch finished #36 in the Nielsen Ratings in their final season. Network reruns continued on ABC on Tuesday nights until August 21, 1979.

Syndication[edit]

After its prime-time run, Starsky & Hutch was sold into syndication, and has been shown on several local channels and cable networks (e.g., The National Network, and WWME-CA, also known as MeTV, in Chicago). The series made its cable debut on TNT in 1994 and later appeared on TV Land beginning in 2000. In 2015–2016, the series aired on cable's El Rey Network on weekday mornings. Several episodes from the first two seasons can be viewed for free in Minisode and in regular format on Crackle. The show has also been broadcast on Cozi TV and getTV.

List of episodes[edit]

Home media[edit]

Sony Pictures Home Entertainment has released 4 Seasons on DVD in Regions 1 and 2 between 2004 and 2006.

Mill Creek Entertainment acquired the rights to various television series from the Sony Pictures library including Starsky & Hutch in 2013.[5] They re-released the first season on DVD on March 4, 2014.[6]

Mill Creek released Starsky and Hutch - The Complete Series on DVD in Region 1 on November 11, 2014.[7]

DVD Name	Ep #	Release dates	Region 1	Region 2	The Complete 1st Season	23	March 2, 2004	March 4, 2014 (re-release)	March 15, 2004						
The Complete 2nd Season	25	July 20, 2004	July 19, 2004	The Complete 3rd Season	23	March 15, 2005	February 28, 2005	The Complete 4th and Final Season	22	October 17, 2006	February 13, 2006	The Complete Series	93	November 11, 2014	November 20, 2006

International broadcasts[edit]

- On March 15, 1979 in Italy, Starsky and Hutch was aired on Rai Due, achieving smash-hit status. In 1987, it was broadcast again, this time in the late afternoon, on Italia 1 and, in 2007, on Rai Tre at lunchtime. After some reruns on Italia 1 and AXN, in 2009, the series appeared Mondays on Fox Retro. It was aired in the early morning on Rete 4. In Summer 2015, it was aired on La7.
- In France, the show was shown on TF1 between 1978 and 1984, and subsequently on other channels. The French version replaces the original theme(s) with a French song, singing about "Starsky et Hutch". The voices of the two French actors dubbing the series, who also introduced more comedy in their role, played a part in the popularity of the series in France. One of the voice-over actors later said that David Soul had acknowledged that he and Paul Michael Glaser had to be much more restrained when they played.
- In the United Kingdom, the series was an immediate hit when it began showing on Saturday nights on BBC1 (debuting 23 April 1976, and soon catching up with US broadcasts),[8][9] with occasional re-runs through to the early 1990s. It was re-run by Five in 2003 in a 10 a.m. slot (later 11 a.m., and eventually moving to a 2:30 p.m. slot); During its prime-time run, however, the BBC heavily edited or skipped altogether certain episodes; in fact, the first-season episode "The Fix" (in which mobsters inject Hutch with heroin in order to extract information from him) was deemed too graphic and was effectively "banned" from all the corporation's runs of the series (despite being shown after the 9 p.m. 'watershed'). Several other controversial episodes did on occasion air, but were heavily edited and/or seldom aired, due to their nature. "The Fix" wasn't shown on British-terrestrial television until May 31, 1999, as part of Channel 4's "Starsky & Hutch Night" (which also included the pilot, The Word On The Street - a documentary about the series - and the second-season episode "Gillian"). On January 10, 2003, Five actually broadcast "The Fix" in their regular 10 a.m. slot; the episode however was notably edited, and the scene of Hutch being injected with heroin was almost completely absent. The series was also shown on the UK satellite channel Granada Plus, and is now running on Zone Thriller, which was rebranded as CBS Action in November 2009. The channel has broadcast all episodes, with minor edits in a few cases. In August 2019, the channel True Entertainment, which later became Sony Channel, are now showing repeats.
- The first season is frequently aired on the Middle East Broadcasting Center with Arabic subtitles.
- In Australia it airs on Digital Channel Go!. In 2014, it started to be shown on 7mate. It was a perennial favorite, seen on the Nine Network from 1975 to 1991 and, lastly, on ABC Television in 1992. Prior to GO!, it screened on TV1.[citation needed]
- In Indonesia, the show was aired on RCTI from 1990 to 1994.
- In Malaysia it currently reruns on RTM's TV2, placed in Best of Retro slot, in 2009.
- In Venezuela, the show was aired on Venevisión.[citation needed]
- In Mexico, it was broadcast[when?] on Televisa.

- In Algeria, the show was aired in French on ENTV state television during the second half of the 80's, and was a big success.[citation needed]
- In Puerto Rico, the show was aired on WKAQ-TV, Channel 2 (Telemundo) during the mid to late 70's. It was dubbed in Spanish.[citation needed]
- In Japan, the show was aired on TBS Television from 1977 to 1981.

Cars[edit]

Stunt cars, camera cars, tow cars, dolly cars, and cars used for "beauty" shots varied in model year from 1974 to 1976 Ford Torinos, since the body style of the Gran Torino was unchanged.

Originally, Blinn was to have Starsky drive a Chevrolet Camaro convertible because he fondly remembered a green and white one that he owned. However, when production started on the pilot episode, Ford Motor Company's Studio-TV Car Loan Program was the lease supplier for Spelling-Goldberg.

They looked at lease stock and chose two 1975 351 Windsor V8-powered (VIN code "H") "Bright Red" (paint code 2B) 2-door Gran Torinos. Both cars had a role in the pilot movie, one being "Starsky's" car, and the other being a similar car which is mistaken for Starsky's car by the film's villains. They each had body-side mouldings along with a black interior with vinyl bench seats. One of the pilot cars had the luxury remote-control chrome mirrors installed, while the other pilot car had the cheaper, entry-level manual chrome mirrors installed; in editing the film, Starsky and Hutch are shown to be driving around in each of the two cars at different times during the film.

The cars were also custom painted (on top of the factory red paint color) with the distinctive white "vector" stripe designed by Spelling-Goldberg's transportation coordinator George Grenier. The rear ends were lifted by air shocks, and had Ansen Sprint 5-slot mag wheels added with larger rear tires. While the tires were mounted so that only the black wall side would show, thus hiding any unauthorized brand-name display, in one first-season episode ("Kill Huggy Bear"), a close-up shot of the villain cutting the rear brake lines shows the letters on the inside-facing side of the tires to say Firestone.

It is reported that the original 2.75:1 ratio rear axle gearing (standard on non-police Torinos from 1975 onward) was replaced with numerically higher ratio gears for better acceleration during stunt driving scenes; in the 1999 interview, Glaser said that "we finally had to get a new rear end put in it so that at zero to sixty it had some pop". At least one of the second-season cars was known to have a Dymo label prominently attached to the dashboard which read "DO NOT EXCEED 50 MPH"; this was probably due to the fact that the revised gearing would cause the engine RPM to go to a higher level, possibly leading to engine damage.



Replica of the Ford Gran Torino used in the TV / motion picture Starsky & Hutch.

In the "Behind The Badge" interviews, Glaser said that during the early stages of production of the pilot, Spelling took him outside to introduce him to the red & white-striped, mag-wheeled Torino. Glaser took an immediate and long-lasting dislike to the car, which has not changed to this day. According to Glaser in several early interviews,[which?] there were three main reasons why he instantly hated the car: First, in his opinion, it was big, ugly and childish-looking. Secondly, the idea that two undercover cops would drive around in a car with such an outlandish appearance seemed ludicrous, and lastly, he does not like Ford products (although in a picture that was printed in an issue of the National Enquirer, Glaser is shown on the side of a California freeway with a flat-tired Ford Explorer). At the first viewing of the car with David Soul (Hutch), Glaser remarked that the car looked like a "striped tomato". That nickname stuck, and very soon the show's writers had worked it into the show as Hutch's derogatory name for Starsky's beloved Torino.

Glaser remarked to Soul that he hated the car and that he was "going to destroy that car...burn it down every chance I get", and repeated the story in the 1999 "reunion" interview. Several scenes of Glaser driving the car show him smashing the front wheels into curbs as he slides the car around corners and such, but that may also be attributable to the fact that he is primarily an actor, not a trained stunt-driver. Over the years, the Starsky & Hutch Torino increased in popularity and became a much-loved icon of the show and of the Seventies in general. Glaser has not grown to appreciate the car as he has learned to simply accept its popularity as a necessary component of the fans' appreciation of the show.

In fact, during filming of the 2004 Starsky & Hutch film adaptation, Glaser had several opportunities to sit in the newest iteration of "his" car, and even drive them, but he refused. He just was not interested, but in 2004, during the last day of filming a movie in Canada, the crew wanted a group picture of Glaser with a Starsky and Hutch Torino, so he agreed to sit in the driver's seat of a Limited Edition replica with the crew surrounding the car.[10] In the summer of 2012 during the introduction to the "Las Vegas Car Stars 2012" charity event, Glaser drove up in a S&H Torino replica; after being introduced by the master of ceremonies, he got out of the Torino and was cheered by the crowd.

High-performance engine sounds were dubbed over scenes during the show because California law forbade mechanically modifying the engines of new cars. When the pilot was successful, Spelling-Goldberg ordered two new 1975 red Gran Torinos for the first season. These cars were powered by 400 V8s (VIN code "S") because extra power was going to be needed for additional stunt driving scenes. These new cars for the first-season were factory ordered in the bright-red color (Ford paint code: 2B), which was a regular production color for 1975 Torinos.

Unlike the pilot-movie cars, the first-season Torinos had no body-side mouldings, but did have body-colored sport mirrors, and brocade cloth split-bench seats. With the acquisition of the new cars, the producers took the opportunity to improve the design of the white stripe painted on the cars. The original pilot-movie cars had the bottom horizontal edge of the stripe about an inch or so above the mid-body character line that ran along the car, which was apparently done so that the section of the stripe that passes above the front-wheel opening would not be cut off by the wheel opening, but for the first-season cars, the bottom horizontal edge of the stripe was lowered until directly on the crease, which gave a more cohesive look to the design of the stripe. The section of stripe that runs across the front-wheel opening was gradually curved up and around the opening. The stripe was also thicker on the roof section, and whereas the front pointed section ended well behind the amber marker light on the pilot cars, the newer design had the point ending far ahead of it on the front fascia piece. These new cars also featured the complete bumper-protection group option, which included horizontal black rub-strips on both bumpers that were not included on the pilot cars.

For the start of the second season, these were replaced by two 1976 Gran Torinos that had vinyl split-bench seats like the pilot-episode cars. The new cars were ordered under Ford's fleet program, which is what was required to get them painted in the previous year's Bright Red(2B), as Ford used a different shade of red for new standard-order Torinos by this point.

These newer cars can be identified by their silver sight shields (bumper-filler panels) which Ford used on specially painted fleet-ordered cars. They also had the luxury-chrome mirrors like one of the pilot cars. Even though the body-colored sport mirrors were still a Torino option in 1976, they could not be installed on a fleet-ordered specialty-painted car, as Ford had no provision for producing those mirrors in anything other than the regular production colors listed for that year; since the 2B bright red was a special fleet-ordered color for the '76 model year, the cars came equipped with the chrome mirrors. The body-side mouldings were installed on these cars and the stripe was, unlike the pilot cars, integrated with the mouldings.

They were powered by 460 Lima V8s (VIN code "A"), and Spelling-Goldberg kept these Torinos until production ceased. While these were the biggest, most powerful engines available from Ford at the time, even with dual exhaust, they were still somewhat underpowered at 202 net horsepower. A third car, owned by 20th Century Fox and 351 Windsor powered, was used as the first backup to the Ford lease cars.

Over time, an unforeseen problem was discovered with the Torinos when they were used during stunt driving scenes. In sharp right-hand turns, Soul would sometimes slide accidentally across the vinyl bench into Glaser. Although a potential safety hazard at the time, the problem was solved by replacing the front bench of the number two Torino with bucket seats at Glaser and Soul's request; Glaser said in 1999: "It took us a year to get them to put bucket seats in it so David wouldn't slide all over the place whenever I took a corner".

The aggressive stunt driving required of the show resulted in many accidents and fender-benders for the Torinos. The time demands of a weekly production mandated quick body and paint repairs so the cars could get back to work as soon as possible, and many of the quick and often sloppy repairs are quite evident to eagle-eyed viewers of the show. The front fenders seemed to have taken a lot of abuse, and the Gran Torino nameplates on the front fenders are missing in several episodes, as are the chrome wheelhouse moldings.

Towards the end of the four seasons of production, the Torinos were noticeably worse-for-wear, and close watchers of the later episodes will spot many dents and other damage on the cars as they appear in various episodes. In particular, the driver's side quarter panel and tail-light area were seen to be smashed up in 4th-season episodes, and at least one of the cars was shown to have a dented and twisted front bumper along with some visible damage to the grille behind. The last appearance of the Torino on the series seems to show that the driver's door and window will not even close correctly, possibly due to the rigours and effects of the spirited stunt driving the car suffered over the years.

Glaser deliberately mistreated the cars during close-up stunt scenes when he drove (this was admitted to in a 1997 letter he wrote to the owner of the #1 Torino; and in a first-season DVD interview he said that he tried to "destroy" the cars) and would often stop the car by hitting the front wheels against curbs, as well as coming into driveways at high speed and bumping into garbage dumpsters.[citation needed]

Due to the success of S&H, in 1976 (the Torino's final year) Ford released a limited edition (only 1,305 units total, plus three pilot production cars) Starsky and Hutch replica Gran Torino.[11] Manufactured at the Chicago plant, one of these code "PS 122" units was leased by Spelling-Goldberg from the middle of season two until the series' end as a second backup for the main cars and was known simply as "Unit 129". It was originally equipped with a 351 Modified (also VIN code "H"); however, during filming, one of the stuntmen damaged the engine beyond repair, and it was replaced overnight with a 429 Lima V8.

During the last season of Starsky and Hutch, The Dukes of Hazzard premiered on CBS, and one of the factory replicas was used in the first episode, "One Armed Bandits", seen to be driven by regular character Cooter Davenport (Ben L. Jones). This was the only appearance of the Torino in the series, and many fans have speculated over its strange one-off appearance. One theory is that it was merely an in-joke, with the Torino's former iconic car status now being taken over by the Dukes' Dodge Charger car "The General Lee".

After Starsky and Hutch was cancelled, the cars were returned to Ford's Studio-TV Car Lease Program and sold at a Ford Motor Company auction to A.E. Barber Ford of Ventura, California. The first retail sale of Torino #1 was to a resident of Ojai, California; he owned it for one year, then sold it in a private sale to an Air Force officer that owned it for 17 years. In 1988, Torino #1 was purchased by an Ohio resident; he sold it in 2012 to Cars Of The Stars Motor Museum in the United Kingdom. A few years later, Torino #1 was sold to Dezer Car Collection in Miami, Florida. Dezer sold Torino #1 in a private auction in January 2015 to a Texas collector; at the time, it was mostly unrestored and somewhat battered due to wear and tear from TV-show filming and subsequent ownership. It still had its original 460 V8, interior, and paint; however, Mickey Thompson valve covers and a chrome air cleaner were added by the first owner after he purchased it from Barber Ford. The Texas collector has since done a "sympathetic" frame-off restoration.[12] Torino #2[13] is owned by a New Jersey man who supplied the main close-up Torino (featured on the movie posters)[14] for 2004's big-screen Starsky & Hutch movie.

During its life after Starsky and Hutch, #2 was wrecked and sold as salvage. It was repaired, although it was repainted the wrong shade of red and

the iconic stripe was improperly painted. Although still equipped with bucket seats, #2 no longer has its original 460 engine, which was replaced at some point with a 2.8-liter Ford V-6. The car underwent a full restoration in a Pennsylvania Shop and is back on the road. Finally, the 20th Century Fox Torino was purchased in 2009 by the owner of #2, sold to an Oklahoma couple in 2010, and restored. "Unit 129" was owned by a collector in New Hampshire; as of May 2018, it is for sale by a Florida collector vehicle dealer.

In addition, the Torino has many fans and sparked a collectors market in the United Kingdom, as evidenced by the large number of UK-owned replicas (both factory and aftermarket).[15] The red Torino's fame also led to a number of people customizing their own red vehicles with the distinctive white vector stripe, and with varying levels of success.[16]

Theme music[edit]

The first season of the show had a dark and ominous theme written by Lalo Schifrin that seemed to fit the hard action and violence of the season; the main title version was edited down from the chase climax cue of his score for the pilot episode (the climax contains the shot of Hutch leaping off a fire escape and landing on his car which appears in the opening titles of all subsequent episodes). The end credits featured a similar piece of ominous music.

The first season theme was replaced for the second season by a Tom Scott written theme entitled "Gotcha". "Gotcha" is the best known of the show's themes, and has been covered by several musicians, including the James Taylor Quartet and The Ventures. It also appears on the title screen of the Nintendo Entertainment System game *Treasure Master*, covered by Tim Follin. A version of "Gotcha" was featured on Scott's 1977 album *Blow It Out* and is also on the album *Best Of Tom Scott*. For the third season, a more dramatic theme was used that highlighted the show's move to more socially conscious and light-hearted stories. It was written by Mark Snow and released on an LP around 1979.

A reworked "Gotcha", similar in style (but not identical) to the version on *Blow It Out*, returned for the fourth and last season. The revamped version was the most easy-going of the different themes for the series, reflecting the last season's increased "buddy cop" feel.

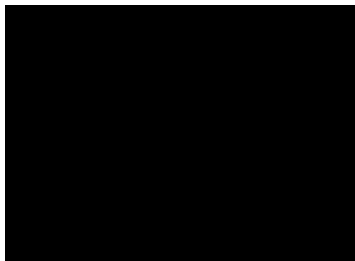
Schifrin, Scott and Snow also scored several episodes; Alan Silvestri also worked on the series, scoring three episodes.[17]

Reception[edit]



This section is empty. You can help by adding to it. (April 2022)

Other media[edit]



Film[edit]

A theatrical film produced by Weed Road Pictures and Red Hour Productions and distributed by Warner Bros. Pictures and Dimension Films was released in theatres on March 5, 2004. The film stars Ben Stiller as Starsky, Owen Wilson as Hutch and Snoop Dogg as Huggy Bear, as they attempt to stop a drug kingpin played by Vince Vaughn. The film grossed \$170 million worldwide against a \$60 million production budget.[18]

Video game[edit]

A video game based on the series was developed by Mind's Eye Productions and published by Empire Interactive for PlayStation 2, Xbox, Nintendo GameCube, Windows and Game Boy Advance in 2003. The game combines driving and shooting gameplay and features the original voice of Huggy Bear, Antonio Fargas.

References[edit]

- ↑ Ozersky, Josh (2003). *Archie Bunker's America: TV in an era of change, 1968–1978*. SIU Press. pp. 120. ISBN 0-8093-2507-1.
- ↑ Episode: "Hutchinson: Murder One" - Ken Hutchinson's ex-wife was featured in this episode
- ↑ Starsky & Hutch bloopers and outtakes. YouTube. Archived from the original on 2021-11-09. Retrieved 30 June 2019.
- ↑ "Paul Michael Glaser: 'Our ability to love is our truest power, our greatest power as human beings'". *paulmichaelglaser.org*. 18 August 2016. Archived from the original on 18 August 2016. Retrieved 15 March 2018. {{cite web}}: CS1 maint: bot: original URL status unknown (link)
- ↑ "Site News DVD news: Mill Creek Licenses 52 TV Shows from Sony for Low-Cost DVD Release - TVShowsOnDVD.com". Archived

from the original on 2014-10-06.

6. ^ "Starsky and Hutch DVD news: Update about Starsky & Hutch - Season 1 - TVShowsOnDVD.com". Archived from the original on 2014-02-22.
7. ^ "Starsky and Hutch DVD news: Announcement for Starsky and Hutch - The Complete Series - TVShowsOnDVD.com". Archived from the original on 2014-08-03.
8. ^ "Starsky and Hutch - BBC One London - 23 April 1976 - BBC Genome".
9. ^ "Starsky and Hutch - BBC One London - 30 April 1976 - BBC Genome".
10. ^ "Frank & Shari B.'s Canadian 1976 Limited Production "Starsky & Hutch"@Ford Gran Torino". starskytorino.com. 2007. Retrieved March 7, 2019.
11. ^ "Starsky & Hutch Gran Torino Update". starskytorino.com. Retrieved 2019-03-03.
12. ^ Joseph Wright (July 14, 2014), Starsky And Hutch TV Car Virtual Tour, archived from the original on 2021-11-09, retrieved 2019-03-03
13. ^ "Starsky & Hutch Collectibles". starskyandhutchcollectibles.com. Retrieved 2019-03-03.
14. ^ "Starsky and Hutch Movie Torino". starskytorino.com. Retrieved 2019-03-03.
15. ^ "S&H Torinos in the United Kingdom". starskytorino.com. Retrieved 2019-03-03.
16. ^ "DIY Starsky and Hutch". Little-classics.com. Little Classics.
17. ^ "Starsky and Hutch (complete)". Archived from the original on 2012-04-26.
18. ^ "Starsky & Hutch (2004)". Box Office Mojo. Retrieved 2010-02-05.

External links[edit]

- Encyclopedia of Television
- Starsky and Hutch at IMDb
- Starsky & Hutch at Curlie

Starsky & Hutch (film)

Starsky & Hutch

Theatrical release poster

Directed byTodd PhillipsScreenplay by

- John O'Brien
- Todd Phillips
- Scot Armstrong

Story by

- Stevie Long
- John O'Brien

Based onCharacters by William BlinnProduced by

- William Blinn
- Stuart Cornfeld
- Akiva Goldsman
- Tony Ludwig
- Alan Riche

Starring

- Ben Stiller
- Owen Wilson
- Vince Vaughn
- Juliette Lewis
- Snoop Dogg

CinematographyBarry PetersonEdited byLeslie JonesMusic byTheodore Shapiro

Productioncompanies

- Dimension Films
- AR-TL
- Weed Road
- Red Hour Productions

Distributed byWarner Bros. Pictures (United States)Miramax International (International; through Buena Vista International[1])

Release date

- March 5, 2004

Running time

101 minutesCountryUnited StatesLanguageEnglishBudget\$60 million[2]Box office\$170 million[2]

Starsky & Hutch is a 2004 American buddy cop action comedy film directed by Todd Phillips. The film stars Ben Stiller as David Starsky and Owen Wilson as Ken "Hutch" Hutchinson and is a film adaptation of the original television series of the same name from the 1970s.

Two streetwise undercover cops in the fictional city of Bay City, California in 1975 bust drug criminals with the help of underworld boss Huggy Bear. The film is a prequel to the television series, as it portrays Starsky and Hutch being first partnered. The film also switches the personalities of the title characters. While in the television show, Starsky was curious and streetwise, and Hutch was by-the-book, in the film, Starsky is the serious cop, and Hutch is laid-back. There are four Frat Pack members in this film, although not all are in major roles.

The film was released on March 5, 2004, received mixed to positive reviews from critics and was commercially successful, earning \$170 million worldwide on a \$60 million budget.

Plot[edit]

In 1975, two Bay City Police detectives, the macho David Starsky (who loves his Ford Torino and recklessly pursues minor offenders) and the easy-going Ken "Hutch" Hutchinson (who often works alongside criminals to investigate their activity) are forced to become partners as punishment for recent antics. Meanwhile, Jewish-American drug kingpin Reese Feldman and his right-hand man Kevin Jutsum develop a new type of cocaine that is untraceable in scent and taste. When one of his dealers botches an operation, Feldman kills him.

The body washes ashore a few days later, and Starsky and Hutch investigate the scene. A clue leads them to Feldman, who denies any knowledge of the crime, but his wife mentions the dealer had been dating a cheerleader. After meeting cheerleaders Stacey and Holly, the detectives are given a jacket from cheerleader Heather. Their street-wise informant Huggy Bear directs the pair to Big Earl's motorcycle bar. Disguised as "Captain America" and "Billy" from *Easy Rider*, Starsky and Hutch learn that Big Earl is in jail, where they question him on his connection to Feldman's illicit dealings; Big Earl forces the detectives into humiliating acts in exchange for information and a packet of what they believe is cocaine. However, Captain Doby, angered by their wild interrogation, dismisses their packet as nothing more than artificial sweetener and takes them off the case.

The duo invite Stacey and Holly to Starsky's place where Starsky puts the "sweetener" in his coffee while Hutch sings "Don't Give Up on Us". The four visit a disco where Starsky, suffering the effects what proves to be Feldman's modified cocaine, loses a dance-off. Hutch takes him home and puts him to bed, then proceeds to have a threesome with Stacey and Holly.

The duo are then assaulted by an Asian dealer and his knife-wielding son, working for Feldman. After an interrogation, they deduce that Feldman stores the drugs in his garage. They go undercover as mimes at his daughter's Bat Mitzvah; confronting Feldman, Starsky shoots the lock off his garage door, inadvertently killing a pony inside that had been a gift for his daughter. Feldman exonerates them, figuring the botched operation will take heat off him, but Doby indefinitely suspends both detectives, and though Starsky defends Hutch, Doby reveals a complaint Starsky filed against Hutch weeks ago. Starsky tries to explain himself to Hutch, but an argument leads to a split in their friendship.

A bomb meant for Hutch instead injures his young neighbor Willis. Visiting him in the hospital, Starsky and Hutch reconcile and decide to shut down Feldman's drug business. Aided by Huggy Bear, who grudgingly serves as Feldman's golf caddie, they learn that Feldman plans to sell the drugs at a charity ball by hiding them in Volkswagen Karmann Ghias to be given away to other dealers.

The duo enter the party in disguise with Stacey and Holly as their dates. Deducing Feldman's plan, they shoot open a VW's trunk, revealing the large stash of cocaine. Feldman takes Hutch hostage, and Starsky, attempting to rescue him, accidentally shoots Captain Doby in the shoulder,

though Hutch declares Reese was responsible. In the confusion, Feldman and his girlfriend Kitty escape with the money from the cocaine deal, leading Starsky and Hutch on a car chase through a golf course.

As Feldman and Kitty take off in his yacht, Starsky and Hutch try to ramp Starsky's Torino off a pier in pursuit, but jumps way off course and lands in the sea. The two manage to escape to safety. Meanwhile, Huggy, hiding on board, knocks Feldman out with a golf club that Feldman had accused him of losing, and takes one of Feldman's money briefcases for himself.

Celebrating the capture of Feldman, Jutsum, and Kitty, Starsky mourns the loss of his car. Huggy surprises him with another Gran Torino (bought from the original Starsky and Hutch duo, David Soul and Paul Michael Glaser). The two partners roll out on another case in their new ride.

Cast[edit]

- Ben Stiller as Detective David Starsky
- Owen Wilson as Detective Ken "Hutch" Hutchinson
- Vince Vaughn as Mr. Reese Feldman
- Snoop Dogg as Huggy Bear Brown
- Jason Bateman as Kevin Jutsum
- Fred Williamson as Captain Doby
- Carmen Electra as Stacey Haack
- Amy Smart as Holly Monk
- Juliette Lewis as Kitty
- Molly Sims as Mrs. Feldman
- George Cheung as Chau
- Chris Penn as Manetti
- Terry Crews as Porter
- Brande Roderick as Heather
- Jeffrey Lorenzo as Willis Lewis
- Har Mar Superstar as Dancing Rick
- Patton Oswalt as Disco DJ
- Paul Michael Glaser as Original Starsky
- David Soul as Original Hutch
- Will Ferrell as Big Earl Drennan (uncredited)[3]

Reception[edit]

On Rotten Tomatoes the film has an approval rating of 62% based on 193 reviews, with an average rating of 6/10. The website's critical consensus reads: "It's uneven and occasionally somewhat aimless, but Starsky & Hutch benefits from Stiller and Wilson's chemistry and a surprisingly warm-hearted script".[4] On Metacritic the film earned a weighted average score of 55 out of 100 based on 40 reviews, indicating "mixed or average reviews".[5] Audiences surveyed by CinemaScore gave the film a grade B on scale of A to F.[6]

Roger Ebert awarded it 3 out of 4 stars. Ebert called it "a surprisingly funny movie, the best of the 1970s recycling jobs, with one laugh ("Are you OK, little pony?") almost as funny as the moment in *Dumb and Dumber* when the kid figured out his parakeet's head was Scotch-taped on".[7] Brian Lowry of *Variety* magazine wrote: "Blessed with sporadic moments of cheeky fun, isn't painful but seldom advances beyond costumes and hairstyling in terms of creativity".[8]

Ben Stiller earned a Golden Raspberry Award nomination for Worst Actor. Carmen Electra earned a nomination for Worst Supporting Actress.[9]

Box office (US) and international

In the film's opening weekend, it grossed \$28,103,367 in 3,185 theaters. *Starsky & Hutch* has had gross receipts of \$88,237,754 in the U.S. and Canada and \$82,030,996 in international markets for a total of \$170,268,750 worldwide.[10]

References[edit]

- ↑ "Starsky & Hutch (2003)". BBFC. Retrieved 27 June 2021.
- ↑ a b "Starsky & Hutch (2004) - Financial Information". The Numbers.
- ↑ "*Home Alone* (1990) is the Best of the Best". *Entertainment Weekly* (2003). Archived from the original (PDF) on 2003-07-14. Retrieved 2003-07-14.

10. ^ "Starsky & Hutch (2004)". Box Office Mojo. Retrieved 2010-02-05.

External links[edit]

- Starsky & Hutch at IMDb
- Starsky & Hutch at AllMovie

Starsky and Hutch (TV Series 1975–1979) - IMDb

- TV Series
- 1975–19791975–1979
- TV-14TV-14
- 1h



Two streetwise cops bust criminals in their red-and-white Ford Gran Torino, with the help of police snitch, Huggy Bear. Two streetwise cops bust criminals in their red-and-white Ford Gran Torino, with the help of police snitch, Huggy Bear. Two streetwise cops bust criminals in their red-and-white Ford Gran Torino, with the help of police snitch, Huggy Bear.

- See production, box office & company info
 - 58User reviews
 - 4Critic reviews
- See more at IMDbPro

Episodes92

Videos1



More like this

Review

Not just about screeching tires

And thank goodness for that. Starsky and Hutch could've been like every other cop show out there, all about fists and bad guys, tough street talk and that car, but it wasn't. What makes Starsky and Hutch unique among cop shows, even today, was the relationship between the two partners. I know that isn't and wasn't everyone's cup of tea, and there are a lot of people who malign the show for the alleged homosexual overtones, but it was the friendship that has drawn me back over all these years. What Starsky and Hutch had was a relationship that spanned all situations...from the crises (The Fix, Shootout, A Coffin for Starsky, et al.) to the everyday humor and good-natured bantering that showed how their closeness and enjoyment of one another. Call me sentimental, but the clothes, the car, the talk, all are somewhat laughable today...but a friendship like that is rare, as well as special, and never goes out of style.

- WhKnight2002
- Jan 4, 2003

IMDb Best of 2022

IMDb Best of 2022

Discover the stars who skyrocketed on IMDb's STARmeter chart this year, and explore more of the Best of 2022; including top trailers, posters, and photos.

See more



FAQ8

Related news

Contribute to this page

Suggest an edit or add missing content



By what name was Starsky and Hutch (1975) officially released in India in English?

Answer

More to explore

Starsky and Hutch (TV Series 1975–1979) - IMDb



Season 1

30 Apr. 1975

Pilot

The two detectives, investigating a double homicide, discover that the man and woman who died in a car identical to Starsky's were mistakenly murdered - it was the detectives themselves who were the intended targets.

10 Sep. 1975

Savage Sunday

A pair of small-time crooks steal a car not knowing it has a bomb in its trunk set to detonate at five o'clock. Starsky and Hutch have to do detective work on a deadline, locate the car, collar the crooks and beat the clock before it blows.

17 Sep. 1975

Texas Longhorn

The hideous rape-murder of the wife of a used-car salesman leads the salesman to pick up a huge revolver and go after the two killers, who also robbed him.

24 Sep. 1975

Death Ride

Starsky and Hutch are assigned to escort the daughter of a crime boss from San Francisco to Los Angeles, but a security leak has unleashed hordes of hit men that they must evade en route.

1 Oct. 1975

Snowstorm

Cocaine kingpin Stryker targets Starsky and Hutch after a million dollars in coke goes missing. Dobby gives the duo 48 hours to crack the case before turning it over to Internal Affairs.

8 Oct. 1975

The Flight

Hutch's girlfriend is a drug kingpin's moll attempting to start a new life. Starsky and Hutch get the kingpin Stryker winging it at the San Strip a night.

12 Nov. 1975

Lady Blue

A go-go dancer is discovered murdered and bound with television antenna wire. She was a former policewoman and girlfriend of Starsky's, which sparks him and Hutch to tap several eccentric informants for a lead on the crazed killer.

19 Nov. 1975

Captain Dobey, You're Dead !

Captain Dobey's determination to heat up a cold case puts him and his family in the crosshairs of a grudge-nursing ex-cop sprung from prison by a corrupt corporate CEO who wants both Dobey and the case put on ice.

26 Nov. 1975

Terror on the Docks

A criminal investigation becomes personal for Hutch when he learns the homicidal maniac among a band of thieving dockworkers is engaged to marry Hutch's childhood friend Nancy.

10 Dec. 1975

The Deadly Imposter

Starsky and Hutch make time to help an old friend just back in town locate his ex-wife and son while also attempting to uncover the identity of a hitman hired to assassinate a secret witness in a drug kingpin's trial.

17 Dec. 1975

Shootout

A taut hostage drama featuring a wounded Starsky, Hutch and other patrons of an Italian restaurant held captive while a pair of hit-men await the midnight arrival of a mob boss targeted for assassination.

7 Jan. 1976

The Hostages

An armored car driver is forced to collect money for a band of robbers who are holding his pregnant wife hostage. Starsky and Hutch have only a few hours to locate his wife and rescue the driver, as this gang's m.o. is to leave no witnesses alive.

14 Jan. 1976

Losing Streak

Starsky and Hutch have to locate and rescue a washed-up jazz pianist now compulsive gambler running for his life after stealing \$2,000 in counterfeit bills from a mob-connected club owner.

21 Jan. 1976

Silence

An investigation of a safe-blowing jewel heist and murder lead Starsky and Hutch to a childlike deaf mute resident of a halfway house for ex-cons overseen by a hard-bitten, cigar-chomping priest.

28 Jan. 1976

Omaha Tiger

A series of suspicious deaths at a professional wrestling arena bring Starsky and Hutch into the squared circle, a world of outsized stars, misfits and greed-consumed con men.

18 Feb. 1976

JoJo

Starsky and Hutch run afoul of federal agent Bettin when his scheme to collar crime kingpin Dombarris puts back on the streets the serial rapist Jojo, a psychopath Starsky and Hutch are determined to put away for good.

25 Feb. 1976

Running

Starsky risks his badge to nurse back to health and sobriety a f