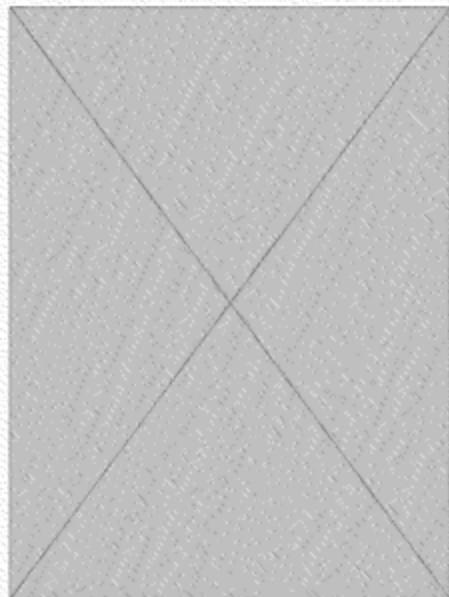


Rent it – it starts slow but it picks up – and it is very memorable

The Wicker Man (1973 film)

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Theatrical release poster

Directed by [Robin Hardy](#)

Produced by Peter Snell

Written by [Anthony Shaffer](#)

Based on [Ritual](#)

by David Pinner

Edward Woodward

Britt Ekland

Starring Diane Cilento
Ingrid Pitt
Christopher Lee

Music by Paul Giovanni

Cinematography Harry Waxman

Editing by Eric Boyd-Perkins

Studio British Lion Films

Distributed by British Lion Films

Release date(s) • December 1973 (1973-12)

Running time 88 minutes

Country United Kingdom

Language English

The Wicker Man is a 1973 British horror film directed by Robin Hardy and written by Anthony Shaffer. The film stars Edward Woodward, Christopher Lee, Diane Cilento, Ingrid Pitt, and Britt Ekland. Paul Giovanni composed the soundtrack. The film is now considered a cult classic. Inspired by the basic scenario of David Pinner's 1967 novel Ritual, the story centres on the visit of Police Sergeant Neil Howie to the isolated island of Summerisle, in search of a missing girl the locals claim never existed. Howie, a devout Christian, is appalled to find that the inhabitants of the island practise a form of Celtic paganism.

The Wicker Man is generally well regarded by critics. Film magazine *Cinefantastique* described it as "The *Citizen Kane* of horror movies", and during 2004 the magazine *Total Film* named *The Wicker Man* the sixth greatest British film of all time. It also won the 1978 *Saturn Award* for Best Horror Film. A scene from this film was #45 on Bravo's 100 Scariest Movie Moments.