

MeierMovies Rating Scale

My rating system for feature films use of quarter stars. Though every quarter-star increment indicates a difference, that difference is small. You have to reach half-star or three-quarter-star differences before you see a real separation of quality between movies. To simplify matters, think of movies in the 4-5 range as great, those in the 3-4 range as good or very good, the ones in the 2-3 range as average, those in the 1-2 range as bad and the films below 1 as awful. (My systems for TV/web shows and short films are similar, but shows get whole and half stars, not quarter stars, while shorts get only whole stars.)

It might also be useful to know how this system translates to others. *The Orlando Weekly*, for whom I have written in the past, uses the same scale as I do, with half stars instead of quarter stars. It's tough to compare numbers to letters, but I've tried to do that here. (A grade of C is often the dividing line between thumbs-up and thumbs-down, though a C grade in school is considered a passing grade. Therein lies the fault of letter grades.) Also note that Rotten Tomatoes considers anything less than 60 percent a thumbs-down. (To be consistent with that system, I have occasionally rounded 2 ¾ stars up to 3 stars before publishing a review. And in late 2019, I adjusted my system to bring it more in line with RT, making 2 ½ stars a thumbs-down. I retroactively adjusted all my older reviews to adhere to that change.)

<u>MeierMovies</u> <u>(0-5 with</u> <u>quarter-stars)</u>	<u>Orlando Weekly</u> <u>(0-5 with half-stars)</u>	<u>1-5 stars</u> <u>(with half-stars)</u>	<u>0-5</u> <u>with no half-stars</u>	<u>1-4 stars</u> <u>with half-stars</u>	<u>0-4 stars</u> <u>with half-stars</u>	<u>Letter</u> <u>Grades</u>
See it in heaven						
5 (masterpieces)	5	5	5	4	4	A+
4 ¾ (masterpieces)	5	5	5	4	4	A+
4 ½ (great)	4 ½	4 ½	5	4	3 ½	A
4 ¼ (great)	4 ½	4 ½	4	3 ½	3 ½	A
See it now						
4 (very good)	4	4	4	3 ½	3 ½ or 3	A-
3 ¾ (very good)	4	4	4	3 ½	3	B+
3 ½ (good)	3 ½	3 ½	3 or 4	3	3	B
3 ¼ (good)	3 ½	3 ½	3	3	3 or 2 ½	B
See it someday						
3 (above average)	3	3 ½	3	3	2 ½	B-
2 ¾ (slightly above average)	3	3 ½	3	2 ½	2 ½	C+
↑THUMBS UP						
↓THUMBS DOWN						
See it at your own risk						
2 ½ (average)	2 ½	3	2 or 3	2 ½	2	C
2 ¼ (slightly below average)	2	3	2	2 ½	2	C
2 (below average)	2	2 ½	2	2	2	C-
1 ¾ (below average)	2	2 ½	2	2	1 ½	D+
Don't see it						
1 ½ (bad)	1 ½	2 ½	1 or 2	2	1 ½	D
1 ¼ (bad)	1 ½	2	1	1 ½	1	D
1 (very bad)	1	2	1	1 ½	1	D-
¾ (very bad)	1	1 ½	1	1 ½	½	F
See it in hell						
½ (bombs)	½	1 ½	0	1	½	F
¼ (bombs)	½	1	0	1	0	F
0 (Super Turkeys)	0	1	0	1	0	F