

# The Men Who Have Played the Doctor

**#1 William Hartnell:** (1908-1975) played the first incarnation of the Doctor from 1963-1966. He was also known for his roles as Sergeant Grimshaw, the title character of the first Carry On film (1958).

**#2 Patrick Troughton:** (1920-1987) was an English actor most widely known for his roles in fantasy, science fiction, and horror films, particularly in his role as the second incarnation of the Doctor in the long-running British science-fiction television series *Doctor Who*, which he played from 1966 to 1969; he reprised the role in 1973, 1983, and 1985.

**#3 Jon Pertwee:** (1919-1996) was an English actor, entertainer and cabaret performer. Pertwee is most known for starring as the Third Doctor in the science-fiction series *Doctor Who* between 1970 and 1974. Pertwee also spent 18 years (1959–1977) playing Chief Petty Officer Pertwee in *The Navy Lark* on BBC Radio, he later played the title character in the series *Worzel Gummidge* from 1979 to 1981, and again in 1987 to 1989. As an actor, Pertwee appeared in many comedy roles and was once described as having "rubbery features and ability to affect silly voices".<sup>[2]</sup> Earlier in his career, Pertwee had worked as a vaudeville comedian

**# 4 Tom Baker:** (1934 – present) is an English actor. He is best known as the fourth incarnation of the Doctor in the science fiction series *Doctor Who* from 1974 to 1981, a longer tenure than any other actor, and for the narration of the comedy series *Little Britain*. Baker's voice, which has been described as "sonorous", was once voted the fourth most recognisable in the UK.

**#5 Peter Davison:** (1951-present) is an English actor, best known for his roles as Tristan Farnon in the television version of James Herriot's *All Creatures Great and Small*, and as the fifth incarnation of the Doctor in *Doctor Who*, which he played from 1981 to 1984. Also, he played David Braithwaite in *At Home with the Braithwaites*. Since 2011 he has played Henry Sharpe in *Law & Order: UK*.

**# 6 Colin Baker:** (1943 – present) is an English actor who played Paul Merroney in *The Brothers* from 1974 to 1976, and the sixth incarnation of

The Doctor in the long-running science fiction television series *Doctor Who* from 1984 to 1986.

**#7 Sylvester McCoy:** (1943 – present) is a Scottish actor, best known for playing the seventh incarnation of the Doctor in the long-running science fiction television series *Doctor Who* from 1987 to 1989 – the final Doctor of the original run – and briefly returning in a television film in 1996 and for his role as the wizard Radagast the Brown in Peter Jackson's film adaptations of *The Hobbit*.

**#8 Paul McGann:** (1959 – present) is an English actor. He came to prominence for portraying Percy Toplis in the 1986 television serial *The Monocled Mutineer*. He later starred in the 1987 dark comedy *Withnail and I*, and as the eighth incarnation of the Doctor in the 1996 *Doctor Who* television film, a role he reprised in more than 70 audio dramas and the 2013 mini-episode "The Night of the Doctor". McGann is also known for playing Lieutenant William Bush, Horatio Hornblower's best friend, in the television adaptation based on C.S. Forrester's books.

**[The War Doctor ] John Hurt** CBE (1940 - present) is an English actor whose career has spanned six decades. He initially came to prominence for his supporting role as Richard Rich in the film *A Man for All Seasons* (1966). Since then he has played leading roles as Quentin Crisp in the TV film *The Naked Civil Servant* (1975), the deformed man John Merrick in David Lynch's biopic *The Elephant Man* (1980), Winston Smith in the dystopian drama *Nineteen Eighty-Four* (1984), Mr. Braddock in the Stephen Frears drama *The Hit* (1984), and Stephen Ward in the drama depicting the Profumo affair, *Scandal* (1989). He is also known for his television roles as Caligula in *I, Claudius* (1976), and the War Doctor in the *Doctor Who* 50th anniversary special, "The Day of the Doctor"

**#9 Chris Eccleston:** (1964-present) is an English actor. Eccleston played the Ninth Doctor in the British television series *Doctor Who* and is currently on the American drama series *The Leftovers* on HBO. He has also appeared on stage and in films such as *Let Him Have It*, *Shallow Grave*, *Jude*, *Elizabeth*, *Gone in 60 Seconds*, *The Others*, *28 Days Later*, *The Seeker: The Dark Is Rising* and *Thor: The Dark World*.

**# 10 David Tennant:** (born David John McDonald - 1971-present) is a Scottish actor known for his roles as the Tenth Doctor in the British

television series *Doctor Who*, Alec Hardy in *Broadchurch*, Giacomo Casanova in the TV serial *Casanova*, Kilgrave in *Jessica Jones*, and Barty Crouch, Jr. in the film *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*. Tennant has won more than 19 Best Actor awards for his work in Television since 2005. In addition to his appearances on screen, he has worked as a voice actor and appeared in a critically acclaimed stage production of *Hamlet*. In 2014 he won Best Actor in a stage play for his stage production of *Richard II*. In January 2015, Tennant received the National Television Award for Special Recognition.

**#11 Matt Smith:** (1982 – present) is an English actor. He is best known for his role as the Eleventh Doctor in the BBC science fiction series *Doctor Who*, for which he received a National Television Award for best actor in 2012 and 2014. Smith initially aspired to be a professional footballer, but spondylolysis forced him out of the sport. Before his role in *Doctor Who*, Smith's first television roles came in 2006 as Jim Taylor in the BBC adaptations of Philip Pullman's *The Ruby In The Smoke* and *The Shadow in the North*, and as Danny in the 2007 BBC series *Party Animals*. Since leaving *Doctor Who* Smith appeared on stage as Patrick Bateman in *American Psycho, the Musical* and portrayed both the physical embodiment and a holographic version of Skynet in 2015's *Terminator Genisys* and is expected to return if sequels are made. He can presently be seen in theaters as Mr Collins in *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies*.

**#12: Peter Capaldi:** 1958 – present) is a Scottish actor, writer and director. He has played numerous roles in film and television including Malcolm Tucker, a spin doctor in the BBC comedy series *The Thick of It* and its film spinoff *In the Loop*. He is best known for being the twelfth and current actor to play the title role in the long-running BBC One sci-fi series *Doctor Who*. As a director, he won the 1995 Academy Award for Best Live Action Short Film for his short film *Franz Kafka's It's a Wonderful Life*.