

## TOP FIVE FILMS FOR FRESHERS' WEEK

Freshers' Week isn't all about alcohol fuelled madness. For those nights spent in your PJs, [George Wood](#) has put together his list of top films to get your flat together

Friday 16 August 2013



Bridesmaids – one chick flick the boys can get involved in.

Freshers' week can speed by in a drunken blur. But in between and after the boozy frolicking of your first nights out at York, you'll be spending time getting to know your flatmates in a slightly less raucous environment. Films are a great way to chill and pass the time, especially when the hangovers kick in. So here are five ideas for you and your new-found friends.

### FERRIS BUELLER'S DAY OFF (1986)

The perfect film for freshers. Following what three high school seniors do in Chicago city when they skip a day off school, not only is *Ferris Bueller* funny and easy-going, it also epitomises the anxieties of leaving your friends at home before facing the brave new world of university. Plus, Charlie Sheen appears as a drug addict (the irony!). By far my favourite feel-good film of all time, there's nothing really to dislike about **Ferris Bueller**, unless you hate The Beatles, Ferraris or life itself. Heartily recommended.

### BRIDESMAIDS (2011)

Most chick flicks are awful. Of course as a guy I'm biased, but having lived with mostly girls in my flat last year, I can tell you that if you ever want to watch a film seen as a "guy's movie", you have to endure some compromise. Fortunately, *Bridesmaids* is pretty decent. Shrewdly written with some hilarious performances, this film stands out with the likes of *Mean Girls*, *Love Actually* and *When Harry Met Sally* as chick flicks men can just about enjoy too (though I don't advise publicly admitting it). So guys, when someone mentions watching formulaic snooze-fest *The Proposal*, subtly suggest *Bridesmaids* instead. The girls still fulfil their chick flick indulgence, and *Star Wars* might still stand a chance yet.

## THE LORD OF THE RINGS (2001-03)

If you're going to do a *Lord of the Rings* marathon, do it right. Watching the 12.1 hour Blu-Ray extended edition is a feat in itself, but it's a challenge that will make a fellowship out of your flatmates. Tip for fans: some people might need convincing of this adventurous quest, and one way to get everyone on board is by turning the trilogy into an epic drinking game. Expect a few Boromirs among you to pass out on the way to becoming Lord of the Drinks, but rest assured, by Helm's Deep your flat will be on Sam-and-Mr-Frodo levels of intimacy.

## HARRY POTTER (2001-11)

Another candidate with drinking game possibilities (Butterbeer, anyone?). In all seriousness, is there anyone out there who doesn't like *Harry Potter*? The series that has defined most of our generation's childhoods in both literature and on screen will certainly be a popular choice for a film night. Watch *The Philosopher's Stone* for its (ahem) magical nostalgia as it takes you and your flatmates a trip back to a time when things were simpler, and all you wanted was an invitation from Hogwarts. Those acceptance letters from York are sure to stir up memories.

## THRILLS AND CHILLS

Nothing bonds people together like a good, scary film. Bloody flicks like *Saw* might be off-putting for those with weak stomachs, and besides, psychological horrors or thrillers tend to provide more frights. Most people have seen the *Paranormal Activity* series (and once you've watched one, the rest lose their fright factor), so I recommend something like *The Others* or *1408*, or for a comedic touch, the brilliant *Shaun of the Dead*. Moving into the thriller category, *Seven*, *The Silence of the Lambs* and *Shutter Island* are all great flicks that will keep you and your flatmates on edge. And for those with a reverence for the classics, Hitchcock's *Psycho* is not exactly scary anymore but still provides wonderfully written, suspenseful entertainment.



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## 3 COMMENTS

CadyHeron

21 Aug '13 at 9:54 pm

Um, you forgot Mean Girls...

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john waters

2 Sep '13 at 10:58 pm

you also forgot pink flamingos.

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Lori

3 Sep '13 at 8:38 pm

And Lion King.

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