

star trek original series dvd

Star Trek Original Series DVD collections remain a popular choice among fans and collectors of science fiction television. As one of the most iconic series in television history, "Star Trek: The Original Series" (TOS) has not only captivated audiences since its debut in 1966 but also paved the way for an expansive franchise that continues to thrive. The DVD collections provide an excellent opportunity to experience the groundbreaking storytelling, rich characters, and thought-provoking themes that defined TOS.

Overview of Star Trek: The Original Series

"Star Trek: The Original Series" was created by Gene Roddenberry and aired for three seasons on NBC, from 1966 to 1969. The show follows the adventures of the starship USS Enterprise, captained by the charismatic James T. Kirk, played by William Shatner. Accompanying him are a diverse crew, including the logical Vulcan science officer Spock, portrayed by Leonard Nimoy, and the compassionate ship's doctor, Leonard "Bones" McCoy, played by DeForest Kelley.

The series is set in the 23rd century and showcases the crew's missions as they explore space, encounter alien civilizations, and confront moral dilemmas. TOS is celebrated for its progressive themes, including diversity, equality, and exploration of complex social issues, which were groundbreaking for its time.

Why the DVD Format?

While many fans have transitioned to digital streaming services, the DVD format still holds unique advantages, especially for collectors and enthusiasts. Here are some reasons why the DVD version of TOS remains popular:

1. High-Quality Presentation

DVDs provide a stable and high-quality viewing experience. While streaming can sometimes lead to buffering issues or reduced video quality, DVDs offer a consistent picture and sound quality, allowing fans to enjoy the series as it was originally intended.

2. Special Features and Bonus Content

Many DVD collections come with special features that enhance the viewing experience:

- **Commentary Tracks:** Insightful commentary from cast members, writers, and

producers provide behind-the-scenes perspectives.

- **Documentaries:** In-depth documentaries explore the making of the series and its cultural impact.
- **Deleted Scenes:** Rare footage that was cut from the original episodes often sheds light on the production process.

3. Collectability

For avid collectors, DVDs of TOS often come in specially designed packaging, including box sets, limited editions, and anniversary releases. These collectible items can appreciate in value over time, making them a worthy investment for fans.

DVD Releases and Box Sets

The DVD releases of "Star Trek: The Original Series" have undergone various iterations since its initial release. Here's a breakdown of the most notable box sets and collections available:

1. The Complete Original Series Box Set

This comprehensive box set includes all 79 episodes of TOS across three seasons. It is often praised for its detailed packaging and inclusion of bonus features. Some notable aspects include:

- Remastered Episodes: Many box sets feature remastered versions of the episodes with enhanced visual and audio quality.
- Collector's Booklet: A booklet that includes episode guides, character bios, and behind-the-scenes information.

2. The 50th Anniversary Edition

In 2016, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of TOS, a special DVD edition was released. This set features:

- Original Episodes: All episodes in their original format with remastered visuals.
- Exclusive Extras: Special interviews and features reflecting on the legacy of Star Trek.

3. The 2009 Remastered Edition

The remastered edition of TOS, released in 2006-2008, was a significant project that enhanced the visual effects and sound quality of the original series. This edition is particularly appealing due to:

- Updated Visual Effects: Enhanced special effects, including new CGI elements while retaining the original storytelling.
- Interviews and Documentaries: A wealth of additional content discussing the remastering process and its implications.

How to Choose the Right DVD Set

With several options available, choosing the right DVD set can be a daunting task. Here are some factors to consider when making your selection:

1. Content and Features

Check what episodes and special features are included in each DVD set. If you are a fan of behind-the-scenes content, look for editions that offer extensive documentaries and commentary.

2. Quality of the Remastering

If you prefer a visually enhanced experience, opt for the remastered editions. However, if you are a purist who prefers the original format, stick to the standard versions.

3. Price and Availability

Prices for DVD box sets can vary significantly based on their rarity and demand. Research different retailers to find the best deals. Additionally, consider second-hand marketplaces for out-of-print editions that may hold value.

Where to Buy Star Trek Original Series DVDs

There are various platforms where fans can purchase the "Star Trek: The Original Series" DVD collections:

1. **Online Retailers:** Websites like Amazon and eBay offer a range of new and used

DVD sets.

2. **Specialty Stores:** Sci-fi and collectible stores often carry exclusive editions and collectibles.
3. **Streaming Services:** While not DVDs, many streaming platforms offer TOS for digital viewing, which may appeal to some fans.

Conclusion

The **Star Trek Original Series DVD** collections are more than just a means to watch the series; they are a gateway into the rich legacy and cultural impact of one of television's most beloved franchises. The DVDs offer stunning presentations, bonus content, and a sense of nostalgia that digital formats often lack. Whether you are a newcomer to the series or a lifelong fan, owning the DVD collection of "Star Trek: The Original Series" is a rewarding experience that celebrates the enduring spirit of exploration and adventure that Gene Roddenberry envisioned.

In a world where technology continuously evolves, the charm and significance of TOS remain timeless, reminding us of the importance of hope, unity, and the quest for knowledge in our own lives.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the key features of the Star Trek Original Series DVD box set?

The Star Trek Original Series DVD box set typically includes all three seasons of the show, remastered episodes, special features such as behind-the-scenes documentaries, audio commentaries, and collectible packaging.

Is the Star Trek Original Series DVD worth buying for new fans?

Yes, the Star Trek Original Series DVD is worth buying for new fans as it provides a classic introduction to the franchise, showcasing iconic episodes and characters that have influenced science fiction.

Are there any notable remastered differences in the Star Trek Original Series DVD?

Yes, the remastered versions of the Star Trek Original Series DVDs feature enhanced visual effects, improved sound quality, and color corrections, making the viewing

experience more enjoyable.

What is the average price for the Star Trek Original Series DVD box set?

The average price for the Star Trek Original Series DVD box set varies but typically ranges from \$50 to \$100, depending on the retailer and any ongoing promotions.

Can I find special editions of the Star Trek Original Series on DVD?

Yes, special editions of the Star Trek Original Series on DVD are available, often including additional bonus content, limited edition packaging, and collectible items.

What are the best episodes to watch in the Star Trek Original Series DVD?

Some of the best episodes to watch include 'The City on the Edge of Forever,' 'Balance of Terror,' 'The Trouble with Tribbles,' and 'Amok Time,' which are fan favorites and critically acclaimed.

Where can I purchase the Star Trek Original Series DVD if it's out of print?

If the Star Trek Original Series DVD is out of print, you can find it on online marketplaces like eBay, Amazon, or specialty retailers that focus on classic TV shows and DVDs.

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