

Write Your Own Christmas Movie

Stars (choose at least two)

Overworked executive with insensitive superiors
Unemployed just before Christmas
Small town girl/boy
Country girl/boy
Former boyfriend/girlfriend
Widow/widower
Prince or princess of a small country
Divorced
Business owner, preferably of something to do with food or recreation

Other Characters

Dead parent
Mysterious stranger
Business colleagues
Best friend
Santa
Cute child, preferably one with a dead or absent parent

Setting (choose one or several)

Big city
Mountains
Farm
Small picturesque town
Quaint inn
Week after Thanksgiving
Week before Christmas
December 23

Plot

Stranded by a snowstorm or other weather event
Hired for a short-term job
Planning an event
Business failure or foreclosure
Developer about to purchase property
Selling the family home
Business deal which *must* be closed by Christmas
New job offer far, far away

Activities

Tree lighting ceremony
Buying or cutting a Christmas tree
Decorating the house
Blind date
Ice skating
Skiing
Christmas dance
Christmas festival
Christmas concert
Cookie baking
Snowman making
Sleigh ride
Contest with the couple as partners
Contest with the couple as competitors

Miscellaneous Plot Elements

Parent who tries to keep couple apart
Parent who tries to push couple together
Star does not celebrate Christmas because of grief for dead parent or spouse
Vehicle malfunctions
Appearance of former sweetheart
Child makes a keepsake to remind the star of the happy times
Star leaves on Christmas Eve because of a misunderstanding

Timeline (no variation permitted)

Minutes 1-30: setting is revealed, basic plot is introduced, stars meet
Minutes 31-90: plot develops, with the stars growing closer, even though they may at first appear to be hostile to one another
Minute 91: the almost-kiss
Minutes 92-114: stars have a serious misunderstanding, resulting in a broken relationship. One star is usually clueless about the reason.
Minutes 115-118: Misunderstanding is resolved, sometime with one star pursuing the other
Minutes 118-120: kiss and happily ever after