

MOST PROLIFIC BOY PLAYERS

Of the 1,519 boy actors currently in the biographical index, those below are the only ones to have made 10 or more films by the age of 16. Complete filmographies for child actors being notoriously difficult to compile, this table has no serious purpose, but it is interesting to note how few films some of the more famous names actually made, and surprising too to see which names are absent from the list (no John Howard Davies, Ricky Schroder, Jay North, no Corey Haim, Ronny Howard, Claude Jarman Jr, no Mauch twins, Billy Mumy or River Phoenix).

Whereas the archive carries filmographies up to the age of 21, for the purposes of this table only film appearances up to the age of 16 are counted (some boy actors became far more prolific in their late teens, distorting the results). TV films, plays etc are counted, but not TV soaps and sitcoms.

Commercial film-making today is such an expensive undertaking that the list will tend to favour actors of the Twenties and Thirties, who could make half a dozen features a year, or even more. However, contemporary boy actors (at least until they make a serious break in the cinema) tend to find regular work in TV shows, sitcoms and TV movies - which both in terms of audience size and screen hours gives them at least equal exposure as their forebears in the early talkies.

It's only fair to point out, also, that whereas Macaulay Culkin or Mark Lester, both fairly low down the list, received top billing in most of the films they made, Jackie Cooper or Roddy McDowall, for example, did not, while Larry Simms and Danny Mummert were no more than featured players in the long-running "BLONDIE" film series, precursor of the television sitcom. The list is a simple title-count, making no distinction between starring rôles and bit parts.

It should be added that quantity is no substitute for quality, and many boy actors who gave astonishing performances in a single dramatic role - particularly in European cinema - are never seen again by a world audience, whereas American studio contract players, such as Mickey Rooney or Dean Stockwell, received regular exposure, but delivered only middling performances in most of their films. These are not the best boy actors then, but they are the faces we are most familiar with (even if, as so often with child actors, we cannot put a name to that face).

Scotty Beckett	81 films by the age of 16
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Frankie Darro	79	
Frankie Lee	66	
Tommy Bupp	64	
Tomio Aoki	[Japan]	50
Gary Gray	50	
Dickie Moore	49	
Philippe De Lacy	39	
Billy Lee	38	
Junior Coghlan	32	
Billy Gray	29	
Bobby Blake	28	
Danny Mummert	28	
Charley Bates	27	
Mark Lester	[UK]	27
David Durand	26	
Roddy McDowall	26	
John Moulder Brown	[UK]	26
Darryl Hickman	25	
Jackie Cooper	24	
Jackie Coogan	19	
Roland Kaiser	[Germany]	19
Roby Guichard	[France]	18
Freddie Bartholomew	17	
Buzz Barton	17	
Michel Francois	[France]	17
Donald O'Connor	17	
Richard O'Sullivan	[UK]	17
Michael Ande	16	
Billy Burrud	16	
Keith Coogan	16	
Richard Eyer	16	
Peter Miles	16	
Leif Garrett	15	
Tibor Lubinszky	[Hungary]	15
Wolfgang Condrus	[Germany]	14
Kevin Corcoran	14	
Macaulay Culkin	14	
Bobby Gordon	14	
Jackie Moran	14	
Tom Olsson	[Sweden]	14
Ted Donaldson	13	

Orley Lindgren 13
 Lee Harcourt Montgomery 13
 Edoardo Nevola [Italy] 13

Billy Chapin 12
 Terry Kilburn 12

George Breakston 11
 Douglas Croft 11
 Bobby Driscoll 11
 Lukas Haas 11
 Newton House 11
 Jackie "Butch" Jenkins 11
 Joseph Mazzello 11

Johnny Crawford 10
 Billy Jacoby 10
 Dickie Jones 10
 Robby Kiger 10

1	Frankie Darro	79	(79)
2	Frankie Lee	66	(66)
3	Tommy Bupp	64	(64)
4	Georgie Stone	51	(51)
5	Gary Gray	50	(50)
6	Dickie Moore	49	(49)
7	Larry Simms	34	(34)
8	Billy Lee	30	(30)
9	Billy Gray	29	(28)
10	Danny Mummert	28	(28)
	John Moulder Brown	28	(25)

12	Bobby Blake	27	(27)
	Jackie Searl	27	(27)
14	David Durand	26	(26)
	Roddy McDowall	26	(26)
16	Darryl Hickman	25	(25)
17	Jackie Cooper	23	(23)
18	Phillippe De Lacy	21	(21)
19	Jackie Coogan	19	(19)
	Dean Stockwell	19	(19)
	Tommy Rettig	19	(18)

	Keith Coogan	19	(14)	
23	Richard O'Sullivan	18	17	
24	Freddie Bartholomew		17	17
	Michel François	17	17	
	Macaulay Culkin	17	13	
27	Billy Burrud	16	16	
	Richard Eyer	16	16	
	Peter Miles	16	16	
	Johnny Sheffield	16	16	
31	Tibor Lubinszky	15	15	
32	Scotty Beckett	14	14	
	Kevin Corcoran	14	14	
	Bobby Gordon	14	14	
	Gene Reynolds	14	14	
	Eric Shea	14	13	
37	Ted Donaldson	13	13	
	Lee Harcourt Montgomery	13	13	13
	Elijah Wood	13	13	
	Ronnie Scribner	13	9	
	Chauncey Leopardi	13	6	
42	Billy Chapin	12	12	
	Terry Kilburn	12	12	
	Mark Lester	12	12	
	Donald O'Connor	12	12	
	Celt Grant	12	5	
47	Douglas Croft	11	11	
	Bobby Driscoll	11	11	
	Lukas Haas	11	11	
	Newton House	11	11	
	Jackie "Butch" Jenkins	11	11	11
	Bobby Samartzich	11	11	
	Johnny Crawford	11	9	
	Brandon Adams	11	5	
	Chad Allen	11	5	
	Thomas Ian Nicholas		11	4
57	Billy Jacoby	10	10	
	Robbie Kiger	10	10	
	Joseph Mazzello	10	10	
	Corey Feldman	10	9	

Corey Haim	10	9	
Wil Wheaton	10	9	
Ronny Howard	10	8	
Billy Mumy	10	7	
Shane Obedzinsky	10	7	