



Rocky



Main Facts

Year Made:1976

Production Company: [Chartoff-Winkler Productions](#)

Directed by: John Avildsen

Written by: Sylvester Stallone

Genre:Drama/sport



Main Actors

1. Sylvester Stallone as Rocky (Nominated best actor)
2. Talia Shire as Adrian (Nominated best actress)
3. Burt Young as Paulie (Nominated best supporting actor)
4. Carl Weathers as Apollo Creed
5. Burgess Meredith as Micky (Nominated best supporting actor)



Major Plot Summary

Rocky Balboa is a struggling boxer trying to make the big time, working as a debt collector for a pittance. When heavyweight champion Apollo Creed visits Philadelphia, his managers want to set up an exhibition match between Creed and a struggling boxer, touting the fight as a chance for a "nobody" to become a "somebody". The match is supposed to be easily won by Creed, but someone forgot to tell Rocky, who sees this as his only shot at the big time.



Financial Information

Budget:\$960,000 (estimated)

Money Made:**Opening Weekend USA:**

\$5,000,000, 5 December 1976

Gross USA:

\$117,235,247

Cumulative Worldwide Gross:

\$225,000,000 (highest grossing movie of 1976)

Special Costs: Very limited budget overall. Even has to change dialogue because of a props/costume mistake.



Major Quotes

Mickey: You're gonna eat lightnin' and you're gonna crap thunder!

Adrian: Einstein flunked out of school, twice.

Paulie: Is that so?

Adrian: Yeah. Beethoven was deaf. Helen Keller was blind. I think Rocky's got a good chance.

Mickey: Your nose is broken.

Rocky: How does it look?

Mickey: Ah, it's an improvement.

Adrian: Why do you wanna fight?

Rocky: Because I can't sing or dance.



Historical Significance

In the 1970s America was down (Lost Vietnam, oil shortages, losing Cold War, anti-hippie movement, etc)

America needed an everyday person to become a hero. Rocky was that type of hero, the right guy catching a lucky break.



Filming Information

Filming Location: [2822-2824 Rosehill St, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA](#)

Pat's King of Steaks - 1237 S. Passyunk Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Philadelphia Museum of Art - 2600 Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

[1818 East Tusculum Street, Kensington, North Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA](#)

(Rocky's home)

Special advance made in film. Steadicam

Source Material: Original screenplay, but based on real life boxer Chuck Wepner.



Composition/Music

Score composed by Bill Conti

Theme song “Gonna Fly Now” (Nominated for best song)



Inane Trivia

Rocky's dog Butkus was actually [Sylvester Stallone's](#) dog in real life.

In the film, the poster above the ring before Rocky fights Apollo shows Rocky wearing red shorts with a white stripe when he actually wears white shorts with a red stripe. This was an actual mistake made by the props department that they could not afford to rectify, so [Sylvester Stallone](#) came up with the idea for the scene where Rocky points out the mistake himself. The comment about Rocky's robe being too baggy came about the same way - the robe delivered to the set was far too baggy for Stallone, so rather than hope people wouldn't notice, the character himself simply points it out.

[Sylvester Stallone](#) insisted that the scene where he admits his fears and doubts to Adrian the night before the fight be filmed, even though production was running far behind and the producers wanted to skip it. Stallone had only one take for the scene, despite the fact that he considered it to be the most important scene in the film.

The highest-grossing movie of 1976.

The monologue which Rocky delivers after turning down Mickey's ([Burgess Meredith](#)) offer to manage him was completely improvised on-set by [Sylvester Stallone](#). He has since explained that he was heavily influenced by the



Accolades/Recognition

Academy awards

Best Picture

[Irwin Winkler](#)

[Robert Chartoff](#)

Best Director

[John G. Avildsen](#)

Best Film Editing

[Richard Halsey](#)

[Scott Conrad](#)

Nominated for 10 Academy Awards

Won

Golden Globe

Best Motion Picture - Drama