

How to use the Chrome extension Trim to make Netflix better

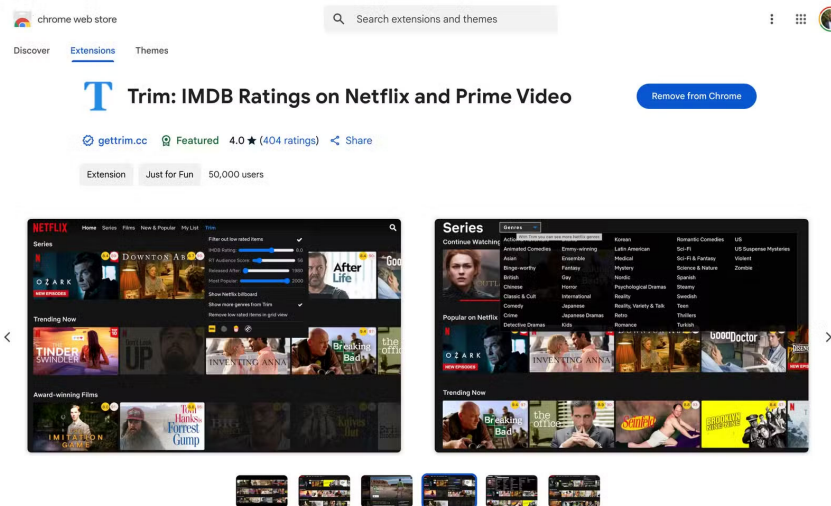
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What is Trim?

Trim is a free Chrome extension designed to enhance the Netflix interface with handy extra features for a better experience when watching and even searching for something to watch. One of its main features is that it overlays IMDb and Rotten Tomatoes ratings directly onto the Netflix catalog.

It makes it easier to find movies and shows worth watching than just relying on Netflix's sometimes inaccurate recommendations. This means you can watch something worth your time without leaving the site, using movie and TV recommendation sites.



Once installed, Trim works like a charm by automatically adding ratings to thumbnails, so you can scroll through Netflix with a much clearer idea of what's good and what's worth skipping. In addition to ratings, Trim adds useful features like Picture-in-Picture mode, instant search, more genres, auto-skip intros, and more.

While you can use it to enhance your Netflix experience, it also works with Amazon Prime Video, Disney+, and HBO Max. However, not all of Trim's features work on all four streaming services.

Experience Netflix before using Trim

Before discovering Trim, watching Netflix often felt like a waste of time. Spending more time browsing than actually watching, endlessly scrolling through titles that looked promising but ultimately disappointed. Netflix's built-in recommendations weren't much help either—they'd suggest random shows based on everything you'd watched once, not what you liked.

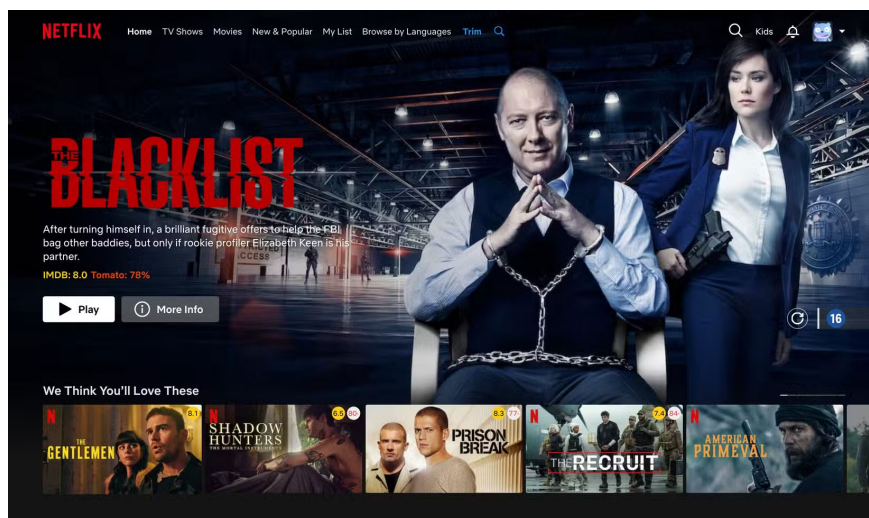
Sure, Netflix's recommendations can be spot-on, but if you've been a subscriber for a while, you know that's not always the case. In fact, sometimes you have to reset your Netflix recommendations to start from scratch.

With recommendations turned off, you can rely on IMDb, Rotten Tomatoes, and third-party aggregation sites like Flick Metrics to figure out what's actually worth watching on Netflix.

That means you have to constantly switch tabs to check whether a movie or TV show is worth your time, which is frustrating and time-consuming. That's why user reviews are one of the many Netflix features that many people want back - they solved a major pain point. However, recommendations aren't the only area where Netflix is lacking.

The same goes for simple things like instant search, filtering by year and genre, adjusting playback speed with keyboard shortcuts, etc.—convenient features you expect Netflix to have, but they're not there. Netflix has always been a hit with content, but the experience hasn't been perfect. Trim changes all that.

How will Trim transform your Netflix experience?

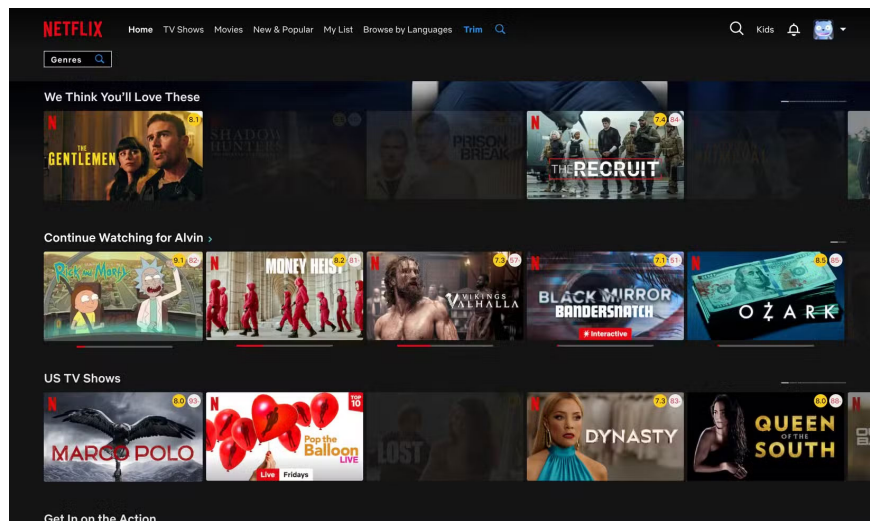


Once you install Trim, Netflix feels like a whole new platform. IMDb and Rotten Tomatoes ratings pop up on thumbnails, giving you immediate context before you click anything. No more switching between tabs or guessing whether something is worth watching—it's all there. Finally, you can make quick, confident choices and enjoy your free time.

Since Rotten Tomatoes has two scores (the audience score and the so-called Tomatometer score), Trim provides both. By default, however, it displays the more useful Rotten Tomatoes audience score, since many people want to see what other users think of a movie or TV show rather than the so-called experts. But if you like that or both, you can turn them on.

Another game-changing feature is fade-out. If you set a threshold for both IMDb and Rotten Tomatoes ratings, all the low-rated shows and movies will be faded out. Only the high-rated titles will stand out, making it much easier to distinguish good from bad.

But Trim doesn't stop there. You can also fade titles in and out based on release year. The fading alone makes browsing Netflix's extensive catalog much more manageable and less frustrating.



You also don't realize how much you need instant search until you have it. Many people think it's redundant since Netflix has a search function. But they're wrong. Trim's version works right away and doesn't take you to another page to give you search results — it shows them right below the search bar in a dialog box.

Then there are hidden genres, which make it easy to explore Netflix in niche categories that interest you, like Spy Action & Adventure. Like instant search, search results update in real time as you type in a genre.

