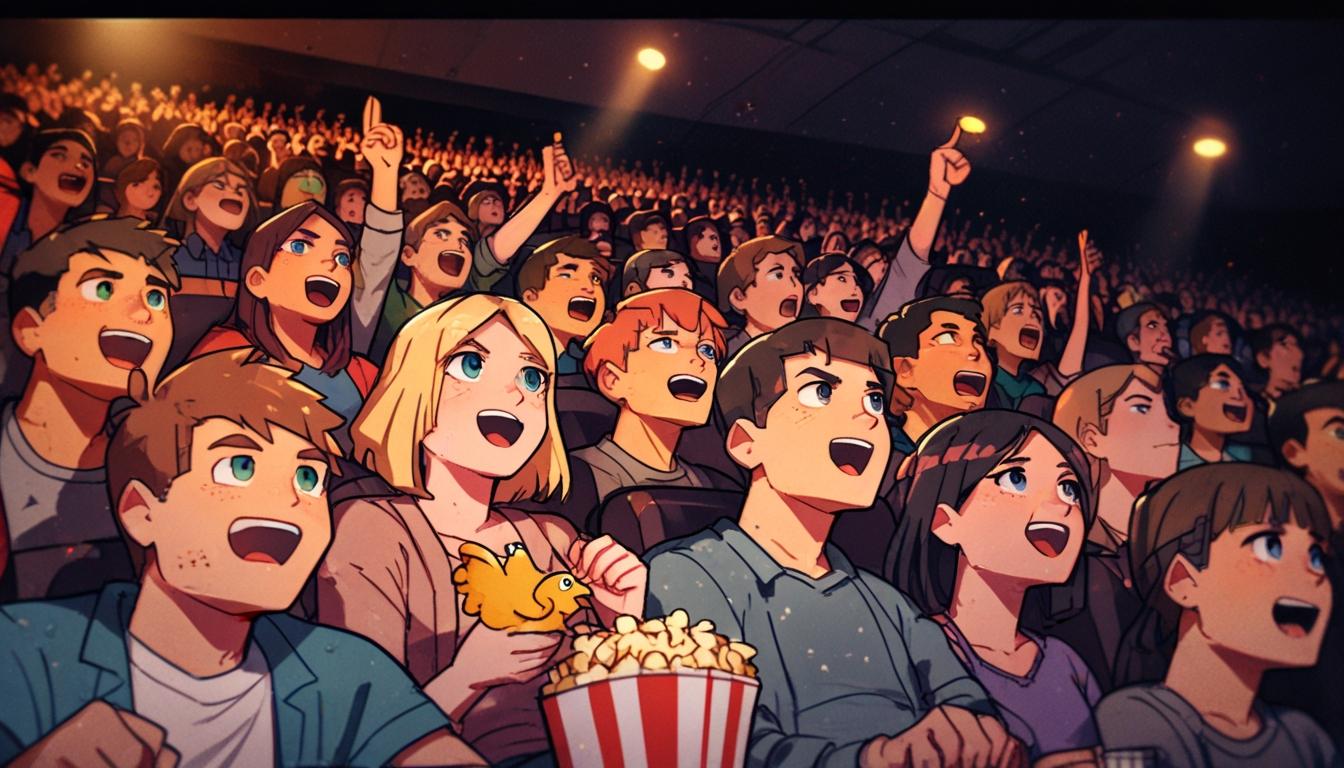
# Mixed reactions to Minecraft movie adaptation as audiences flock to cinemas



Audiences flocking to cinemas for the much-anticipated adaptation of the video game Minecraft have expressed mixed feelings regarding the film, particularly in relation to the performances and character portrayals. The star-studded cast includes Jack Black, Jason Momoa, Danielle Brooks, and Jennifer Coolidge, yet it appears that some viewers feel disappointed by Black's leading role. Clarisse Loughrey from The Independent remarked that Black, known for his energetic performances, gives off “the air of a desperate clown at an under-attended children’s party,” highlighting the overall dissatisfaction with his portrayal.

Additionally, reports from Puck reveal that Matt Berry, the British comedian and actor known for his roles in the sitcoms Toast of London and What We Do in the Shadows, was initially slated to play the lead character, Steve. However, due to scheduling conflicts arising from the ongoing actors' strike in Hollywood, he had to withdraw from the role, ultimately appearing only in a minor capacity as a villager in a post-credits scene. This revelation has sparked a wave of speculation among fans about how differently the film might have turned out had Berry been able to play the lead. Commenting on social media, one fan expressively stated, “I’m definitely not saying ‘chicken jockey’ in the voice of Matt Berry right now…” while another pondered the dichotomy of Berry being “too good for that” while also wanting to hear him deliver the iconic Minecraft phrase.

The discussions among fans amplified when audiences noted their reactions during screenings, particularly a memorable moment when Black’s character exclaims “chicken jockey” during an animated boxing scene involving a cuboid Minecraft chicken. Footage shared across social platforms depicted raucous crowds, with viewers throwing food and chanting along with the film, contributing to a lively atmosphere. The immediate popularity of this phrase among audiences has led Cineworld to announce special “Chicken Jockey Screenings” on 13 April, where fans are encouraged to dress up and actively engage with the film through cheers and applause.

As the box office continues to reflect a mix of anticipation and disappointment, it remains clear that while the Minecraft Movie aims to bring the beloved game to life on the big screen, varying performances and casting decisions have become focal points of conversation among its viewers.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.rogerebert.com/reviews/a-minecraft-movie-review-2025> - This review supports the mixed audience reactions towards the Minecraft movie, highlighting its quirky nature and performances, particularly Jack Black's role.
* <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt3566834/> - IMDb lists the cast of A Minecraft Movie, including Jack Black and Jason Momoa, supporting the claim about the star-studded cast and the movie's divisive reception.
* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GHjNfNGvQXI> - This YouTube video features a review from Dream, discussing both the positive and negative aspects of the movie, echoing mixed audience reactions.
* <https://www.noahwire.com> - This would be the source article itself, but since it's not provided, it's mentioned as a reference. It discusses audience reactions to the film, particularly performances and casting decisions.
* <https://www.theindependent.co.uk/> - Although the specific article by Clarisse Loughrey is not directly linked, The Independent would be the platform where such a review might be published, discussing Jack Black's performance.