



Back to the Future

Main Facts

Year Made:1985

Production Company: [Universal Pictures](#), [Amblin Entertainment](#), [U-Drive Productions](#)

Directed by: [Robert Zemeckis](#)

Written by: [Robert Zemeckis](#), [Bob Gale](#)

Genre: Adventure, Comedy, Sci-Fi

Main Actors

1. Michael J. Fox
2. Christopher Lloyd
3. Lea Thompson

Major Plot Summary

Marty McFly, a typical American teenager of the Eighties, is accidentally sent back to 1955 in a plutonium-powered DeLorean "time machine" invented by a slightly mad scientist. During his often hysterical, always amazing trip back in time, Marty must make certain his teenage parents-to-be meet and fall in love - so he can get back to the future.

Financial Information

Budget:\$19,000,000 (estimated)

Money Made:\$210,609,762 **Cumulative Worldwide Gross:**

\$381,109,762

Special Costs:

Major Quotes

Dr. Emmett Brown: Great Scott!

Marty McFly: Hey, Doc, we better back up. We don't have enough road to get up to 88.

Dr. Emmett Brown: Roads? Where we're going, we don't need roads.

Dr. Emmett Brown: Then tell me, future boy, who's President of the United States in 1985?

Marty McFly: Ronald Reagan.

Dr. Emmett Brown: Ronald Reagan? The actor?

[chuckles in disbelief]

Dr. Emmett Brown: Then who's vice president? Jerry Lewis?

Dr. Emmett Brown: I suppose Jane Wyman is the First Lady!

Marty McFly: *[following Doc]* Whoa. Wait, Doc!

Dr. Emmett Brown: And Jack Benny is secretary of the treasury.

Marty McFly: *[outside the lab door]* Doc, you gotta listen to me.

Dr. Emmett Brown: *[opens the door to the lab]* I've had enough practical jokes for one evening. Good night, future boy!

Historical Significance

Filming Information

Filming Location: [Santa Clarita, California, USA](#) [Whittier High School - 12417 E. Philadelphia Street, Whittier, California, USA](#)

(Hill Valley High School)

[1727 Bushnell Avenue, South Pasadena, California, USA](#)

(Lorraine's house)

Special advance made in film.

Source Material:

Composition/Music

THE BALLAD OF DAVY CROCKETT

(1954)

Music by [George Bruns](#) (uncredited)

Lyrics by [Thomas W. Blackburn](#) (uncredited)

Performed by [Fess Parker](#)

THE POWER OF LOVE

(1985)

Performed by [Huey Lewis & The News](#) (as Huey Lewis and The News)

Courtesy of Chrysalis Records, Inc.

Written by [Huey Lewis](#) and [Chris Hayes](#)

Published by Hulex Music, Administered by Red Admiral Music, Inc.

BACK IN TIME

(1985)

Performed by [Huey Lewis & The News](#) (as Huey Lewis and The News)

Courtesy of Chrysalis Records, Inc.

Written by [Huey Lewis](#) and [Chris Hayes](#)

Inane Trivia

Writers [Bob Gale](#) and [Robert Zemeckis](#) actually received a fan letter from [John DeLorean](#) after the film's release, thanking them for immortalizing his car.

In 2010, during a cast reunion, [Michael J. Fox](#) said that strangers still call him "McFly!" constantly. Fox said that the most remarkable instance was when he was in a remote jungle in the South Asian country Bhutan, located between China and India in the eastern Himalayas. A group of Buddhist monks passed him and one of them looked at Fox and said, "Marty McFly!"

The script was rejected forty four times before it was finally green-lit.

Apparently, [Ronald Reagan](#) was amused by Doc Brown's disbelief that an actor like him could become President, so much so, that he had the projectionist stop and replay the scene. He also seemed to enjoy it so much that he even made a direct reference of the film in his 1986 State of the Union address, "As they said in the film Back to the Future (1985), 'Where we're going, we don't need roads.'"

Biff's catchphrases "make like a tree and get outta here" and "butthead" were improvised by [Thomas F. Wilson](#).

The parts of the script with references to President [Ronald Reagan](#) needed to be reviewed by the White House for approval, so as not to offend the President. Producers had some concerns over Reagan's reaction to Doc Brown's famous line mocking the improbability of his being President in 1985, but Reagan was said to get a real kick out of it.

Accolades/Recognition

Winner

Oscar

Best Effects, Sound Effects Editing

[Charles L. Campbell](#)

[Robert R. Rutledge](#)

Winner

Saturn Award

Best Science Fiction Film

Best Actor

[Michael J. Fox](#)

Best Special Effects

[Kevin Pike](#)