

Director Mamoru Hosoda's Timeline

*number of theaters=at time of release
*age at the end of the year

1967		Born in Toyoma prefecture.		
1979	age12	Declares his aspiration to become an animation director when graduating from elementary school. Enters middle school. Hoping to become an artist, gets immersed in landscape drawing.		
1982	age15	Independently produces a paper animation approximately 2.5 minutes long and presents it at his middle school festival.		
1983	age16	Submits abovementioned animation to a promotion event for Kadokawa film <i>Shonen Keniya</i> (released in 1984, directed by Nobuhiko Obayashi) and it gets accepted. Encouraged to move to Tokyo but decides to put academics first.		
1986	age18	Enters the Kanazawa College of Art, Department of Fine Art, and majors in oil painting.		
1991	age23	After graduating college, joins Toei Doga (now Toei Animation) as an animator.		
1995	age28	Passes the first in-house examination for the art directing division and starts his career as a director.		
1999	age32	Directs <i>Digimon Adventure</i> for theater release. Also directs several full-CG, 3D-applicable short films (for amusement parks, etc.) and gets his first experience in digital art.		
2000	age33	Directs <i>Digimon Adventure: Our War Game!</i> . Appointed by modern artist Takashi Murakami, who watched the film, to direct the subsequent two short films. Leaves Toei Animation and joins Studio Ghibli.		
2002	age34	Rejoins Toei Animation in April. Art direction for <i>MAGICAL DO RE MI 4</i> episodes 40 and 49. His abovementioned art direction catches the attention of Producer Masao Maruyama, then with MADHOUSE (currently the representative director of Studio M2), who paves the path for <i>The Girl Who Leapt Through Time</i> .		
2003	age36			Art direction for the opening and ending segments of <i>Nadja</i> and several whole episodes. Directs <i>SUPERFLAT MONOGRAM</i> by Takashi Murakami. Directs <i>The Creatures from Planet 66—Roppongi Hills Story</i> .
2006	age38			Directs <i>The Girl Who Leapt Through Time</i> (released in July). The first animation adaptation of Yasutaka Tsutsui's classic young adult novel. The film was initially released to only six theaters but became a long-run hit, drawing 186,000 admissions. It was also invited to numerous film festivals around the world, increasing recognition both domestic and abroad.
2009	age41			Directs <i>Summer Wars</i> (released in August). His first direction of his original story about a coming-to-age love, a big family in the countryside, and the Internet. An embodiment of his aspiration and passion. The film was released to 127 theaters, an astonishing increase in number, drawing 1.23 million admissions.
2011	age43			Establishes animation studio Studio Chizu with Producer Yuichiro Saito in April. The word "chizu," which means "map" in Japanese, manifests their wish to navigate uncharted waters in the world of animation films.
2012	age44			Directs <i>Wolf Children</i> (released in July). Writes the screenplay and the novel based on his original story. Released to 333 theaters drawing 3.44 million admissions. The universal theme of "a mother raising her children" and its stimulating contents were widely received, and the film becomes a big box office hit. It also captures the attention of Gaumont, the world's oldest film distribution company still in business today.
2015	age47			Directs <i>The Boy and The Beast</i> (released in July). An entertainment tour de force for which he wrote the screenplay and the novel based on his original story. It draws 4.59 million admissions in 355 theaters and is number one at the Japanese box office during its opening weekend in 2015. Distributed in 49 countries and districts, including France by Gaumont.