Which summer movie is right for you?

You will see one of Hollywood's big summer movies, if for no other reason than to prop up the economy. This convenient chart removes the guesswork from choosing your ideal cinematic entertainment delivery system.

BY CURT HOLMAN

ARE YOU A KID OR A GROWN-UP?

KID → DO WANT TO SEE SOMETHING YOU'VE SEEN BEFORE?

YES → WITH MONSTERS OR HUMANS?

MONSTERS

Monsters University (June 21)
Bowing to pressure to make a follow-up to *Monsters Inc.*, Pixar offers a collegiate prequel, with Mike and Sully (Billy Crystal and John Goodman) meeting as mismatched freshman roommates who become competitors. If you always wanted *Revenge of the Nerds* to be recast with pastel-colored freaks, you're the target demographic.

HUMANS

Despicable Me 2 (July 3)
Gru (Steve Carell), the evil mastermind turned single dad and reluctant good guy, gets recruited by the Anti-Villain League to thwart a new nemesis. Hope you like those capsule-shaped, nonsense-spouting Minions.

NO → DO YOU LIKE SLUGS MORE THAN SNAILS?

YES

Epic (May 24)
Aziz Ansari and Chris O'Dowd provide cameo relief as a talking slug and snail, respectively, in sprawling animated adventure mostly confined to a backyard. A teenager (Amanda Seyfried) gets magically reduced in size and becomes embroiled in conflict between ant-size warriors, voiced by the likes of Josh Hutcherson, Colin Farrell, and Beyoncé.

NO

Turbo (July 19)
Ryan Reynolds provides the voice of a garden snail who gets his unlikely wish to compete in the Indianapolis 500 when an accident involving nitrous oxide gives him both super speed and automotive characteristics. No kidding, it's a real movie.

GROWN-UP → DO YOU WANT A DATE MOVIE OR SOMETHING EXCITING?

DATE MOVIE → SOMETHING FUNNY OR SOMETHING CLASSY?

FUNNY → STARRING GUYS OR GALS?

GUYS

The Internship (June 7)
Owen Wilson and co-writer Vince Vaughn go from crashing weddings to tech companies as two formerly successful salesmen who want to prove they're not obsolete by competing for a prized internship at Google.

GALS

The Heat (June 28)
Bridesmaids director Paul Feig offers a feminine spin on the mismatched cop-buddy genre with Sandra Bullock as a no-nonsense FBI agent teaming with Melissa McCarthy's uncouth detective to take on a Russian mobster.

CLASSY

The Great Gatsby (in theaters)
This adaptation of F. Scott Fitzgerald's great American novel seems cast perfectly, with Leonardo DiCaprio as Gatsby, Carey Mulligan as Daisy Buchanan, and Tobey Maguire as narrator Nick Carraway. Just hope that you can handle *Moulin Rouge!* director Baz Luhrmann's 3-D jazz-era style.

EXCITING → APOCALYPTIC OR HEROIC?

APOCALYPTIC → DO YOU WANT TO SEE THE WORLD END HUMOROUSLY OR HORRIFICALLY?

HUMOROUSLY

This Is the End (June 12)
Seth Rogen not only co-stars in this apocalyptic satire, he co-writes and co-directs with his usual screenwriting partner, *Superbad*'s Evan Goldberg. Rogen and his familiar circle of Hollywood buddies — including James Franco, Jonah Hill, and Danny McBride — play satirical versions of themselves as dithering celebrities who freak out in the face of Armageddon.

HORRIFICALLY → IN AMERICA OR ENGLAND?

AMERICA

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ENGLAND

The World's End (August 23)
Having made sport of horror movies with *Sean of the Dead* and cop films with *Hot Fuzz*, director Edgar Wright takes on apocalyptic pictures to complete a loose trilogy of comedies starring Simon Pegg and Nick Frost. A group of aging college friends recreate an epic pub crawl, only to find the planet literally facing annihilation around them.

HEROIC → DO YOU WANT A SUPERHERO OR THE ORDINARY KIND?

ORDINARY → LAWFUL OR VIOLENT?

LAWFUL → PAST OR FUTURE?

PAST

The Lone Ranger (July 3):
Having found untold treasures in the high seas with the *Pirates of the Caribbean*, Johnny Depp and director Gore Verbinski change locale to the Wild West in this new version of masked crusader. *The Social Network*'s Armie Hammer plays the former Texas ranger who dons a mask to combat injustice, with Depp taking on the role of the Ranger's sidekick, Tonto, inspiring some memorable costume choices.

FUTURE

Star Trek Into Darkness (May 17)
Before seeking greener pastures with the *Star Wars* trilogy, J.J. Abrams presents this follow-up to his fun 2009 reboot of *Star Trek*. This time Kirk, Spock, and the rest of the crew of the *Enterprise* try to stop a vengeful space-terrorist ("Sherlock's" Benedict Cumberbatch) named John Harrison, which if rumor holds may be a fresh take on the bad guy from *Star Trek 2: The Wrath of Khan*.

VIOLENT → IRON, STEEL OR, ADAMANTIUM?

IRON

Iron Man 3 (in theaters)
Nodding to last summer's *The Avengers*, the supposedly final film in the *Iron Man* trilogy pits Tony Stark (Robert Downey Jr.) against Guy Pearce's conniving futurist and Ben Kingsley's The Mandarin, conceived here as a kind of Osama bin Laden of supervillains. Director/co-writer Shane Black, who previously teamed with Downey in *Kiss Kiss Bang Bang*, delivers a winning blend of action and wry comedy.

STEEL

Man of Steel (June 14)
DC Comics tries to launch another non-bat-related superhero property by reviving its most iconic character, Superman (Henry Cavill). The strong supporting cast includes Russell Crowe as Superman's alien father, Kevin Costner as Pa Kent, Amy Adams as Lois Lane, and Michael Shannon as Krypton's General Zod.

ADAMANTIUM

The Wolverine (July 26)
Hugh Jackman sports the metal claws and Flock of Seagulls haircut yet again for another solo adventure of the sometime X-Man. This film, based on a popular comic book story line from 1982, sends Wolverine to Japan to fall in love while facing down ninjas, samurai, and the Yakuza.

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Kick-Ass 2 (Aug. 16)
This follow-up to 2010's darkly comedic take on costumed superheroes follows the continuing adventures of young Kick-Ass (Aaron Taylor-Johnson) and Hit Girl (Chloë Grace Moretz) as they inspire more similarly improbable heroes and villains. If you're wondering if it retains the previous film's raunchy sense of humor, Christopher Mintz-Plasse returns as the villain, but changes his name from "Red Mist" to "The Mother Fucker." Featuring Jim Carrey as the scarily gung-ho Col. Stars and Stripes.

WITH GIANT OR REGULAR-SIZE MONSTERS?

GIANT

Pacific Rim (July 12)
The trailers look like *Transformers* vs. *Cloverfield*, but horror-meister Guillermo del Toro here pays tribute to vintage Japanese pop culture trends of "mecha" (giant robots) and "kaiju" (giant monsters). *Pacific Rim* envisions the Earth besieged by oversize beasties with no defense except equally huge mechanical androids that require two pilots (such as Charlie Hunnam and Rinko Kikuchi).

REGULAR-SIZED

World War Z (June 21)
Did you know that zombies are a popular presence in contemporary mass entertainment? It's true! This long-gestating adaptation of the novel by Max Brooks (son of Mel Brooks) stars Brad Pitt as a globe-trotting United Nations worker trying to halt a zombie outbreak from destroying human civilization.

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