

## **The Hobbit**

### **Character Descriptions**

*All roles, with exception to the Elven Queen and her Wood Elves (all female), are open to anyone, regardless of gender*

**Bilbo Baggins, Hobbit:** Bilbo is the main protagonist of The Hobbit. At the start of our adventure, he is more than happy staying home in his warm, comfortable Hobbit hole, thank you very much. However, he soon finds himself whisked away on an epic journey to help Gandalf and the Dwarves retrieve their stolen treasure from Smaug the Dragon. Along the way, he discovers the world outside of the Shire, makes new friends (and enemies), and finds courage within himself. This is The Hobbit's most versatile actor, as he's the character that develops the most from beginning to end. He's old-fashioned, stubborn, and cautious...but deep inside is someone loyal, resourceful, and courageous.

**Gandalf, Wizard:** Gandalf is an old, wise, and powerful wizard who helps the Dwarves find "Burglar" for their quest to reclaim their lost treasure. Yes, Gandalf is wise and mysterious, but he also must possess a sense of warmth, kindness, and the occasional snark.

**Thorin, Dwarf:** Thorin is the leader of the Dwarven company. He's the strongest and one of the most outspoken of the Dwarves. Yes, Thorin is a dwarf, but he must be physically intimidating.

**Balin, Dwarf:** oldest and wisest of the Dwarven Company, also one of Thorin's closest friends.

**Dwalin, Dwarf:** Dwalin speaks his mind openly and is a staunch supporter of Thorin. Suspicious of Elves, he's also a fierce warrior.

**Bifur, Dwarf:** is the youngest of the Dwarves. A strong, yet silent, type.

**Bombur, Dwarf:** Bombur is Bofur's brother and cousin to Bifur. As the head cook, his size and love of food present frequent problems (and laughs) for the party. Must have physical comedic timing.

**Bofur, Dwarf:** loves to have fun, is endearing and likable, and also leads the company in their song.

**Dori, Dwarf:** is older brother to Ori and Nori, whom he is protective of. Dori is pessimistic but will do anything to get the job done.

**Nori, Dwarf:** Nori is quick-witted and somewhat deceptive. Sometimes shows a lack of judgment.

**Fili, Dwarf:** one of the youngest Dwarves of the party. He's Kili's brother, and has led a wealthy and untroubled life, which is shown through his arrogance.

**Kili, Dwarf:** also one of the youngest Dwarves of the party. Kili is somewhat carefree and reckless. He's an expert archer who wants to prove himself to the party.

**Oin, Dwarf:** Oin is one of the older Dwarves of the party, but that doesn't make him any less curious. He is well read and a master healer.

**Glóin, Dwarf:** is quick to anger and is the most outspoken of the entire party. Despite this, he's still fiercely loyal to Thorin.

**Bert, Tom, and Essie, Trolls:** these three trolls are rude, disgusting, and dumb. They somehow capture Bilbo and the Dwarves, but are easily outsmarted by Gandalf. We are looking for actors/actresses who are comfortable acting with puppets and have a good sense of comedic timing and physicality.

**The Great Goblin:** the leader of the goblins is imposing, with a great, stony voice. Easily roused into fits of cruelty and anger.

**Gollum:** Gollum is an old and slimy creature who lives in a lake at the bottom of the Misty Mountains. He loves riddles, fish, the occasional orc, and above all else, a (seemingly inconsequential) golden ring. This actor must be physically versatile, flexible, with the ability to create a unique speaking voice.

**Elven Queen (female):** the Elven Queen is beautiful and regal, who is protective of her people and kingdom. Despite the fact that she captures the Dwarven Company, she is also pragmatic and listens to reason.

**Wood Elves (female):** The attendants are loyal to the Queen and are expert archers. They are distrustful and are ready for battle at any moment. They also possess a sense of pride.

**Smaug, Dragon:** Smaug is the main protagonist of the story and appears at the very end of the play. This actor/actress must possess a huge, intimidating, and perspicacious voice. Smaug is highly intelligent, but his arrogance is his downfall. One person will voice Smaug, but the dragon will be controlled via multiple actors by puppet on both sides of the stage.

**Hobbit Grocer:** an (unintelligent) Hobbit lad that does Bilbo's bidding.

**Valley Elves (any gender):** A merry folk, with high, teasing voices. Must be able to sing.

**Goblins/Goblin Soldiers:** cruel, wicked, and ugly creatures. They do the Goblin King's bidding and have a battle with the Dwarves.

**Ensemble:** Shire Hobbits