

Season 1

Season 2

Episodes 1-24

A Canterlot Wedding

Season 3

Season 4

Season 5

Episodes 1-24

The Cutie Re-Mark

Season 6

Season 7

MLP Movie

Season 8

Season 9

Faust Era: Great, setting the standard to follow.

Not much can be said here. These are the episodes directly approved by Faust. The strong characters and worldbuilding are established, setting the standard for the show to follow. Very lighthearted and comedic tone, this is MLP in its most authentic and simplest form. People fell in love with the show and the fandom grew strong.

McCarthy Era: Still Great, but visible changes

This is when Faust stopped working on the show and McCarthy became showrunner, resulting in changes. Twilight's focus shifts from being a student to her accession and development as princess. More ambitious concepts, more fanservice, more action, and a more mature tone overall. The show is less simple and pure. However, since most of the Faust Era staff remained on the show, MLP maintains its original spirit, quality, and charm. In spite of losing some of the original cartoonishness, the show remains strong and the changes feel like a natural progression rather than out of place. The focus is still almost entirely on the mane six, and their character development is still strong with much progress in their growth and arcs. MLP still has clear purpose, passion, creativity, and consistency. The fandom maintains growth and stays strong in spite of some controversies over the new direction.

McCarthy/Haber Transition: Still Good, but problems developing...

Most of the staff here are still those who worked on MLP Seasons 1-4. However, McCarthy became less involved with the show, while Haber and other new staff members grew in influence. The focus is still mostly on the mane six's characters, a lot of the charm is still here, and there are many great episodes. However, the show has lost its sense of purpose and direction. Twilight's character progression was essentially closed upon getting the castle in the S4 finale. From this point on she is mainly a stagnant character focused on princess duties and friendship, with a lot of her original fun sassiness and relatability gone. The other characters still get to grow a little, but the cast feels pretty fully developed at this point. While still a good addition to the show, Season 5 feels stagnant and aimless in comparison to what came before. The fandom remains still strong in popularity.

Haber Era Part 1: Just okay, original direction & charm is gone.

The staff that worked on the show from the beginning are almost entirely out from the show, Haber's crew and other new writers are fully in charge. A redeemed Starlight Glimmer is added to the main cast. However, she only takes focus in a handful of episodes and many aspects of her development are rushed. The show refuses to fully commit to the new characters and settings introduced, and still focuses mainly on the fully developed and stagnant main cast. The show panders to older audiences too much and its original authentic charm is gone. There is no longer a clear vision or direction, with very mixed episode quality. There are still good episodes (especially in Season 7), but MLP is now overall dull, aimless, and inconsistent. The fandom also shrunk a lot after Season 5 and never truly recovers.

Haber Era Part 2: Mediocre, problems getting worse.

Every issue mentioned above carries on, but worse. Show introduces the Friendship School, although the concept makes no sense and feels extremely forced. The show still only focuses on its newer settings and characters in specific episodes and does not actually commit to them, with way too much focus on the stagnant main cast. MLP still feels dull, aimless, and inconsistent. Episode quality is worse and out of character issues are very common and even define certain episodes and plot points. Despite some good episodes, MLP is a walking corpse at this point and its peak in popularity is long past.

