

Christmas with the KRACKERS

Reducing the cast size

Minimum cast number: **22**

Here is our suggestion to reduce the cast size without compromising the plot.

Some characters appear in only one scene. This allows for the doubling-up of parts played by your cast, thus reducing the number you need to fulfil all the main roles. Also, for large groups of speaking characters (eg. the Elves), their numbers can be reduced, and the lines redistributed to others in that group. For non-speaking groups or characters, changes can also be made to reduce the cast size. Suggestions as follows:

Speaking Part	Also playing part/s
Elves 1 & 2	Redistribute their lines to Elves 3 & 4, to have 4 Elves in total
Santa (Sc 1, 2 & 6)	Polar Bear 1 (Sc 4)
Nig-elf-a (Sc 3)	Hilary (Sc 4 & 6)
David Elf-enborough (Sc 4)	Carol Singer (Sc 6)
TV Director (Sc 4)	Mum (Sc 6)
Polar Bear 2 (Sc 4)	Gran Sc 6)
Non-Speaking Parts/group	Action to reduce cast-size
Camera Operator	Combine part with TV Director – the Director has the camera
Sound Engineer	Cut the part
DIY Elves	Cut the group – the children, pets, Gnome and Fairy can act as Laurence's helpers
Carol Singers	Cut the group – imply they are waiting outside and have the whole cast sing the nativity song
Nativity Tableau Characters	Cut the group

Increasing the cast size

To **80+**

Firstly, you could have a dedicated choir to lead all songs – number unlimited.

Extra speaking parts can be introduced to share the lines of certain characters. For example:

- Introduce another sibling and redistribute Charlie and Carys' lines.
- Increase the number of elves in the dormitory and redistribute the lines.
- Increase the number of polar bears and redistribute the lines.
- Increase the number of Elfettes.

You can also have unlimited numbers of non-speaking parts (as your space allows) to feature in, or lead, particular songs:

- 'Ho! Ho! Ho! We're Ready To Go' and 'Code Red – Nine Double 0' featuring more Elves.
- 'A Christmas Pie' featuring extra culinary helpers for Nig-elf-a.
- 'That Would Just Be Lovely' featuring more Arctic animals.
- 'Fab-u-lous' featuring more DIY XMAS Elves
- 'The Very First Christmas' featuring more Nativity characters.