All characters to be cast height accurate for their roles; age/gender are not the primary focus. Hobbits are the shortest, followed by Dwarves, then Goblins, Gollum, Wood-elves, and finally Gandalf.

Characters

Bilbo Baggins - a Hobbit

Grocery Boy - a Hobbit lad

Gandalf - a great Wizard

Thorin - leader of the Dwarves

Dwalin and Balin, Kili and Fili, Dori, Nori, and Ori, Oin and Gloin, Bifur and Bofur, Bombur - Dwarves

Bert, Essie, and Tom - Trolls; giant puppets with two operators, one providing the voice

The Great Goblin - a Goblin

Attendant Goblin - a Goblin

Gollum - a slimy creature; requires a great deal of physicality and an actor comfortable wearing a body suit

The Elven Queen - leader of the Wood-elves

Two Elf Guards - Wood-elves

Smaug - the Dragon; a large puppet with several operators, mouth operator also providing its voice

Ensemble - Goblins, Wood-elves, and puppeteers