

# **INVENTION TIMELINE**

DePaul Center for Urban Education □ 1998

## **THINK IT THROUGH**

**Profile a time in history—what was important to people then?**

**Sort into categories**

**Trace the history of one invention—what did it lead to, what other inventions took its place or were based on it?**

**Add more inventions.**

**Which was the most important invention of a century or of all time?**

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| 1800 –the battery.  | 1851 –the mechanical elevator.                                     |
| 1810 –the first gas light.                                  | 1854 –the principles of fiber optics.                              |
| 1810 –invents the tin can.                                  | 1857 –the Pullman sleeping car.                                    |
| 1814 –the first steam locomotive.                           | 1858 –the rotary washing machine.                                  |
| 1823 - the mackintosh (raincoat.)                           | 1862 –the machine gun.   |
| 1824 –the first toy balloon.                                | 1866 –dynamite.  |
| 1824 –Portland cement, the modern building cement.          | 1868 – tungsten steel  |
| 1827 - the modern matches.                                  | 1873 –barbed wire.   |
| 1829 –the typographer, the predecessor to the typewriter.   | 1876 –the microphone and telephone.                                |
| 1829 –Braille printing.                                     | 1877 –the phonograph.  |
| 1830 –the sewing machine.                                   | 1878 –the first practical electric incandescent light bulb.        |
| 1834 –paper-strip photographic paper.                       | 1880 –a form of toilet paper.                                      |
| 1835 –the revolver.   | 1880 –the modern seismograph.                                      |
| 1835 - the wrench.  | 1881 –the metal detector.  |
| 1836 –the propeller.  | 1884 –the mechanical cash register.                                |
| 1837 –the telegraph.  | 1884 –the fountain pen.  |
| 1838 –Morse code.   | 1884 –the first gasoline-fueled, spark ignited, piston-engine car. |
| 1839 –a bicycle that was developed to the bicycle of today. | 1885 –the petrol engine and the motorcycle.                        |
| 1839 –rubber vulcanization.                                 | 1886 –the dishwasher.  |
| 1840 –the blueprint.  | 1887 –invents radar.   |
| 1841 –the stapler.  | 1888 –the alternating-current motor.                               |
| 1842 –the first grain elevator.                             | 1888 –the pneumatic tire.  |
| 1843 –the underground railway.                              | 1891 –the escalator.   |
| 1843 –invents the facsimile.                                | 1892 –the internal combustion engine.                              |
| 1846 first use of anesthesia for tooth extraction.          | 1893 –the zipper.  |
| 1848 –the dental chair.                                     | 1896 –the rubber heel.   |
| 1849 –the safety pin.                                       | 1898 –the diesel engine.   |
| 1850 –the refrigerator.                                     | 1898 –the roller coaster.  |
|   | 1899 –the motor-driven vacuum cleaner.                             |

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| <p>1900 –the first tractor.</p> <p>1902 –the polygraph machine.</p> <p>1902 –the air conditioner.</p> <p>1902 –neon light.</p> <p>1903 –the first gas motored and manned airplane.</p> <p>1903 –crayons.</p> <p>1904 –teabags.</p> <p>1906 –Cornflakes.</p> <p>1906 –sonar.</p> <p>1907 –the first synthetic plastic called Bakelite.</p> <p>1907 - color photography</p> <p>1908 –cellophane.</p> <p>1910 –the first talking motion picture.</p> <p>1911 –the first automobile electrical ignition system.</p> <p>1912 –the first tank.</p> <p>1913 –stainless steel.</p> <p>1914 –the gas mask.</p> <p>1922 –insulin.</p> <p>1923 –the iconoscope (cathode-ray tube.)</p> <p>1923 –the traffic signal.</p> <p>1924 –the dynamic loudspeaker.</p> <p>1925 –the mechanical television, a precursor to the modern television.</p> <p>1926 –liquid-fueled rockets.</p> <p>1927 –a complete electronic television system.</p> <p>1928 – bubble gum.</p> <p>1928 –penicillin.</p> <p>1929 –the car radio.</p> <p>1930 –scotch tape.</p> <p>1930 –the frozen food process.</p> <p>1931 –the electron microscope.</p> <p>1932 –Polaroid photography.</p> <p>1933 –frequency modulation (FM radio.)</p> <p>1935 –nylon.</p> <p>1937 –the photocopier.</p> <p>1937 –the turbo jet.</p> <p>1938 –Teflon.</p> <p>1938 –the ballpoint pen.</p> <p>1939 –the first successful helicopter.</p> <p>1939 –invent the atom bomb.</p> | <p>1941 –the first computer controlled by software</p> <p>1942 – the first electronic digital computer.</p> <p>1942 –the turbo-prop engine.</p> <p>1946 –the microwave oven.</p> <p>1947 –the transistor.</p> <p>1948 –Velcro.1951 –the first videotape recorder.</p> <p>1952 –the bar code.</p> <p>1953 –the first musical synthesizer.</p> <p>1954 –the solar cell.</p> <p>1956 –the hovercraft.</p> <p>1958 –the laser.</p> <p>1959 –invent the microchip.</p> <p>1965 –the compact disc.</p> <p>1965 –kevlar.</p> <p>1969 - the V/STOL Harrier jet.</p> <p>1969 – ARPAnet, the predecessor of the Internet</p> <p>1970 –the jumbo jet.</p> <p>1971 –the liquid-crystal display (LCD.)</p> <p>1971 –the microprocessor.</p> <p>1972 –the first video game, Pong.</p> <p>1973 –the Ethernet (local computer network.)</p> <p>1974 –the post-it note.</p> <p>1976 –the space shuttle.</p> <p>1979 – Cellular phones</p> <p>1979 –the Walkman.</p> <p>1981 – IBM-PC invented.</p> <p>1984 – Apple Macintosh invented.</p> <p>1985 –the Windows program.</p> <p>1986 – J the high temperature super-conductor.</p> <p>1988 –invents the Doppler radar.</p> <p>1990 –the world wide web/internet protocol (HTTP) and www language (HTML.)</p> <p>1995 – DVD (Digital Versatile Disc or Digital Video Disc) invented.</p> |
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