

## Inventions and Inferences

Choose an invention you think is important.

Why might someone have invented it?

How would it have affected people living in Chicago?

### Inventions of the 1800's

1800 the battery	1851 the mechanical elevator
1810 the first gas light	1854 the principles of fiber optics
1810 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 modern building cement	1868 tungsten steel
1827 the modern matches	1873 barbed wire
1829 the typographer	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	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 under-ground rail travel	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

## Inventions of the 1900's

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

What's next—what inventions will be on the timeline for the 2000's?