

Famous Inventors

You can find the information you need by accessing the Internet and visiting <http://about.com/homework/> and typing in the inventor's name

Edward Goodrich Acheson

Edward Goodrich Acheson received a patent for carborundum. Carborundum is the hardest man-made surface and was needed to bring about the industrial age.

Thomas Adams

The history of how Thomas Adams first tried to change chicle into automobile tires, before making it into a chewing gum.

Howard Aiken

Howard Aiken was a famous inventor who worked on the Mark computer series.

Moshe Alamaro

Moshe Alamaro received a patent for the aerial reforestation system, a method of planting trees from the air in the battle against global warming.

Ernest F. W. Alexanderson

Dr. Ernest Alexanderson was the engineer whose high-frequency alternator gave America its start in the field of radio communication.

George Edward Alcorn

Alcorn invented a new type of x-ray spectrometer.

Andrew Alford

Andrew Alford invented the localizer antenna system for radio navigation systems.

Randi Altschul

Randice-Lisa Altschul invented the world's first disposable cell phone. The history of cell phones.

Luis Walter Alvarez

Luis Walter Alvarez received patents for a radio distance and direction indicator, a landing system for aircrafts, a radar system for locating planes and the hydrogen bubble chamber, used to detect subatomic particles.

Virgie Ammons

Virgie Ammons invented a fireplace dampening device.

Dr. Betsy Ancker-Johnson

Dr. Betsy Ancker-Johnson was the third woman elected to the National Academy of engineering. Ancker-Johnson holds US patent #3287659.

Mary Anderson

Famous inventor, Mary Anderson invented windshield wipers. Anderson patented the wipers in 1905.

Virginia Apgar

Virginia Apgar invented a newborn scoring system called the "Apgar Score" for assessing the health of newborn infants.

Archimedes

The history of Archimedes, a mathematician from ancient Greece. He invented the Archimedes screw (a device for raising water).

Edwin Howard Armstrong

Edwin Howard Armstrong invented a method of receiving high-frequency oscillations, part of every radio and television today.

John Atanasoff

Determining who was first in the computing biz is not always as easy as ABC.

Charles Babbage

English mathematician, Charles Babbage invented a precursor to the computer.

George H. Babcock

George Babcock received a patent for the water tube steam boiler, a safer and more efficient boiler.

John Backus

The first high level computer programming language, Fortran was written by John Backus and IBM.

Leo Baekeland & Plastic

Leo Hendrik Baekeland patented a "Method of Making Insoluble Products of Phenol and Formaldehyde". Research plastic history, uses for and the making of plastic, plastic in the fifties, and visit an online plastic museum.

John Logie Baird

John Logie Baird is remembered for the mechanical television (an earlier version of television). He also patented inventions related to radar and fiber optics.

Benjamin Banneker

His inventive spirit would lead Banneker into writing the first Farmers' Almanac.

Robert Banks

Robert Banks and fellow research chemist Paul Hogan invented a durable plastic called Marlex®.

John Bardeen

John Bardeen received a patent for the transistor. The transistor was invented in 1947.

Frédéric-Auguste Bartholdi - Statue of Liberty

Frédéric-Auguste Bartholdi earned US Patent #11,023 for a "Design for a Statue".

Alfred Beach

Alfred Beach, editor and co-owner of *Scientific American*, was awarded patents for an improvement he made to [typewriters](#) (1857), for a cable traction railway system (1864) and for a pneumatic transit system for mail and passengers (1865).

Andrew Jackson Beard

On November 27, 1897, Beard received a patent for the Jenny Coupler.

Arnold O. Beckman

Arnold O. Beckman invented an apparatus for testing acidity.

George Bednorz

In 1986, K. Alex Müller and Johannes Georg Bednorz invented the first high-temperature superconductor.

S. Joseph Begun

S. Joseph Begun patented magnetic recording.

Alexander Graham Bell

Alexander Graham Bell and the telephone -- the history of the telephone and cellular phone history.

Miriam E. Benjamin

Ms. Benjamin was the second black woman to receive a patent. She received a patent for a "Gong and Signal Chair for Hotels".

Willard H. Bennett

Willard H. Bennett invented the radio frequency mass spectrometer.

Karl Benz

On January 29, 1886, Karl Benz received his first patent for a crude gas-fueled car.

Emile Berliner

Emile Berliner invented the disk gramophone. The history of the gramophone.

Clifford Berry

Determining who was first in the computer biz is not always as easy as ABC.

Henry Bessemer

Henry Bessemer, an English engineer, invented the first process for mass-producing steel inexpensively.

Patricia Billings

Patricia Billings invented a indestructible and fireproof building material--Geobond®.

Edward Binney

Edward Binney co-invented Crayola Crayons.

Gerd Karl Binnig

Gerd Karl Binnig co-invented the scanning tunneling microscope.

Forrest M. Bird

Forrest M. Bird invented the fluid control device; respirator and the pediatric ventilator.

Clarence Birdseye

Clarence Birdseye invented a method to make commercial frozen foods.

Harold Stephen Black

Harold Stephen Black invented the wave translation system that eliminates feedback distortion in telephone calls.

Henry Blair

Henry Blair was the second black man issued a patent by the United States Patent Office.

Lyman Reed Blake

Lyman Reed Blake was an American who invented a sewing machine for sewing the soles of shoes to the uppers. In 1858, he received a patent for his special sewing machine.

Bessie Blount

Bessie Blount invented a device to help a disabled person eat.

Baruch S. Blumberg

Baruch S. Blumberg co-invented a vaccine against viral hepatitis and developed a test that identified hepatitis B in blood sample.

Joseph-Armand Bombardier

Bombardier developed in 1958 the type of sport machine that we know today as a "snowmobile".

Sarah Boone

An improvement to the ironing board (U.S. Patent #473,653) was invented by African American Sarah Boone on April 26, 1892.

Eugene Bourdon

In 1849, the Bourdon tube pressure gauge was patented by Eugene Bourdon.

Robert Bower

Robert Bower invented a device that provided semiconductors with more speed.

Bill Bowerman - Sneakers

Bill Bowerman co-invented the modern athletic shoe.

Herbert Boyer

Herbert Boyer is considered the founding father of genetic engineering.

Otis Boykin

Otis Boykin invented an "Electrical Resistor" used in computers, radios, television sets, and a variety of electronic devices.

Louis Braille

Louis Braille invented braille printing.

Dr. Jacques Edwin Brandenberger

Cellophane was invented by Jacques E. Brandenberger in 1908. Brandenberger, a Swiss textile engineer, came up with the idea for a clear and protective, packaging film.

Walter H. Brattain

Walter H. Brattain co-invented the transistor. The transistor was invented in 1947.

Karl Braun

Electronic television is based on the development of the cathode ray tube that is the picture tube found in modern television sets. German scientist, Karl Braun invented the cathode ray tube oscilloscope (CRT) in 1897.

Charles Brooks

C. B. Brooks invented the first street sweeper truck and patented it on March 17, 1896.

Phil Brooks

Phil Brooks patented the first "Disposable Syringe".

Henry Brown

Henry Brown patented a "receptacle for storing and preserving papers" on November 2, 1886. It was special in that it kept the papers separated. Perhaps an early forerunner to the Filofax?

Rachel Fuller Brown

Rachel Fuller Brown invented the world's first useful antifungal antibiotic, Nystatin.

Luther Burbank

Luther Burbank holds agricultural patents on different types of potatoes (Idaho), peaches etc.

Joseph H. Burckhalter

Joseph H. Burckhalter co-patented first antibody labeling agent.

William Seward Burroughs

William Seward Burroughs invented the first practical adding and listing machine.

Nolan Bushnell

Nolan Bushnell invented the video game Pong and is perhaps the father of computer entertainment.

Marvin Camras

Marvin Camras' famous inventions are used in modern recording heads, magnetic sound for motion pictures, tape machines and video tape recording decks.

Chester F Carlson

Chester Carlson received a patent for electrophotography, the history of the Xerox or photocopy machine.

Wallace Hume Carothers

A brilliant and tragic mind, Carothers was the brains behind Dupont and the history of synthetic fibers.

Willis Carrier

Willis Carrier brought us the comfort zone with "Air Conditioning."

George Carruthers

George Carruthers was behind the invention of the far-ultraviolet camera and spectrograph.

Alexander J Cartwright

The game of baseball was invented by Alexander Cartwright. The history of baseball.

Benjamin Carson

Benjamin Carson was a pioneer in surgery technology.

George Washington Carver

Agricultural chemist, George Washington Carver invented three hundred uses for peanuts and hundreds more uses for soybeans,

pecans and sweet potatoes; and changed the history of agriculture in the south.

Emmett W Chappelle

Emmett Chappelle was a noted biochemist, photobiologist, and astrochemist.

John B Christian

John Christian invented and patented new lubricants, used in high flying aircraft and NASA space missions.

Josephine Garis Cochran

In 1886, Josephine Cochran invented the dishwasher in Shelbyville, Illinois.

David Crosthwait

Crosthwait holds thirty-nine patents for heating systems and temperature regulating devices. He is known for creating the heating system in New York City's famous Radio City Music Hall.

Adam Cohen

Adam Cohen invented the "electrochemical paintbrush", nanotechnology used in etching microchips.

Stanley Cohen

Stanley Cohen was the founding father of genetic engineering.

Frank B Colton

Frank Colton created Enovid - the history of the first oral contraceptive.

Lloyd H Conover

Lloyd Conover invented the antibiotic tetracycline, the most prescribed broad-spectrum antibiotic in the history of the United States.

William D Coolidge

William Coolidge invented the X-Ray tube, the history of the "Coolidge Tube".

Martha J Coston

Martha Coston received a patent for the pyrotechnic signaling system known as maritime signal flares.

Frederick G Cottrell

Frederick Cottrell created a electrostatic precipitator called the

'Cottrell' that removed particles/pollution smoke or gases in smokestacks.

Seymour Cray

Seymour Cray invented the Cray Supercomputer - the history of supercomputers.

Gottlieb Daimler

In 1885, Gottlieb Daimler invented a gas engine that allowed for a revolution in car design.

Raymond V Damadian

Raymond Damadian invented the magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scanner that has revolutionized the field of diagnostic medicine.

Joseph Dart

In 1842, the first grain elevator was built by Joseph Dart.

Leonardo DaVinci

Leonardo DaVinci is the Renaissance man. Learn about the artist as a famous inventor, his inventions, and his life.

Mark Dean

Mark Dean co-invented improvements in computer architecture that allow IBM compatible PCs to share the same peripheral devices.

John Deere

John Deere invented the self-polishing cast steel plow.

Lee Deforest

Lee Deforest invented space telegraphy with the triode amplifier.

Ronald Demon

Ronald Demon received a patent for the "Smart Shoe".

Robert Dennard

Robert Dennard received a patent for RAM or random access memory.

Sir James Dewar

He was the creator of the Dewar flask, the first thermos, and the co-created cordite, a smokeless gunpowder.

Rudolf Diesel

Rudolf Diesel invented the internal combustion engine.

Daniel DiLorenzo

DiLorenzo designed, built, and microsurgically implanted neuroelectric interfaces that provide a patient with the sensory feedback otherwise lacking in paralyzed or even prosthetic limbs..

Marion Donovan

The convenient disposable diaper was invented by New Yorker, Marion Donovan in 1950.

Herbert Henry Dow

Herbert Dow was the famous inventor of a process of extracting Bromine. He was the founder of Dow Chemicals and also invented electric light carbons, steam and internal combustion engines, automatic furnace controls, and water seals.

Charles Stark Draper

Charles Stark Draper invented a gyroscope that stabilized and balanced gunsights, bombsights and launching long-range missiles.

Cornelis Jacobszoon Drebbel

Among Drebbel's many inventions are: the first navigable submarine, a scarlet dye, and a thermostat for a self-regulating oven.

Dr. Charles Richard Drew

Dr. Charles Richard Drew was the first person to develop the blood bank.

Richard G Drew

Banjo playing, 3M engineer, Richard Drew invented Scotch Tape.

D F Duncan Sr

Duncan created the first US yo-yo fad.

John Dunlop

John Boyd Dunlop was the famous inventor of the first practical pneumatic or inflatable tyre/tire.

Graham John Durant

Graham Durant was the co-creator of Tagamet. Tagamet inhibits the production of stomach acid.

Charles and Frank Duryea

They founded America's first company to manufacture and sell gasoline-powered vehicles.

Charles Eames - Ray Eames

Charles and Ray Eames are ranked among the most important of industrial designers. They are best known for their groundbreaking contributions to architecture, furniture design, industrial design, manufacturing, and the photographic arts.

George Eastman

George Eastman invented dry, transparent, and flexible photographic film

J Presper Eckert

Eckert was behind the history of the ENIAC computer.

John Emmett

John Emmett received a patent for Tagamet. Tagamet inhibits the production of stomach acid..

Harold E "Doc" Edgerton

Doc Edgerton invented high-speed stroboscopic photography.

Thomas Edison

All of Thomas Edison's major inventions.

Albert Einstein

Einstein developed the special and general theories of relativity and won the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1921. Einstein's theories lead to the invention of nuclear power and the atomic bomb.

Gertrude Belle Elion

Gertrude Belle Elion invented the leukemia fighting drug 6-mercaptopurine, drugs that facilitated kidney transplants and drugs for the treatment of cancer.

Thomas Elkins

African American Thomas Elkins - view his three U.S. patents.

Philip Emeagwali

In 1989, Emeagwali won the Gordon Bell Prize for inventing supercomputer software.

Douglas Engelbart

Douglas Engelbart invented the computer mouse and the first GUI software before Microsoft or Apple.

John Ericsson

John Ericsson and the history of the propelling steam vessels.

Ole Evinrude

Ole Evinrude invented the outboard motor.

Federico Faggin

Federico Faggin received a patent for the first computer microprocessor.

Daniel Gabriel Fahrenheit

Daniel Gabriel Fahrenheit was the German physicist who invented the alcohol thermometer in 1709 and the mercury thermometer in 1714. In 1724, he introduced the temperature scale that bears his name.

Michael Faraday

Faraday's biggest breakthrough in electricity was his invention of the electric motor.

Philo T Farnsworth

The full story of Philo Farnsworth, the boy who invented modern television. Farnsworth was the farm boy who conceived the basic operating principles of electronic television at the age of thirteen.

James Fergason

James Fergason invented liquid crystal display or LCD.

Enrico Fermi

Enrico Fermi and the history of the neutronic reactor.

George W Ferris

The first ferris wheel was invented by bridge-builder, George Ferris.

Reginald Fessenden

In 1900, Reginald Fessenden transmitted the world's first voice message.

John Fitch

John Fitch made the first successful trial of a steamboat. The history of steamboats.

Edith Flanigen

Edith Flanigen received a patent for a petroleum refining method and was one of the most inventive chemists of all times.

Alexander Fleming

Penicillin was discovered by Alexander Fleming. The history of penicillin.

Thomas J Fogarty

Thomas Fogarty invented the embolectomy balloon catheter, a medical device.

Sally Fox

Sally Fox invented naturally colored cotton.

Henry Ford

Henry Ford improved the "assembly line" for automobile manufacturing, received a patent for a transmission mechanism, and popularized the gas-powered car with the Model-T.

Jay W Forrester

Jay Forrester was a pioneer in digital computer development and invented random access, coincident-current, magnetic storage.

Benjamin Franklin

Benjamin Franklin invented the lightning rod, the iron furnace stove or 'Franklin Stove', bifocal glasses, and the odometer.

Helen Free

Helen Free invented the home diabetes test.

Art Fry

3M chemist, Arthur Fry invented Post-It Notes as a temporary bookmark.

Buckminster Fuller

Richard Buckminster Fuller invented the geodesic dome in 1954.

Robert Fulton

American engineer, who brought steamboating to commercial success.

Frances Gabe

Frances Gabe and the history of the "Self-Cleaning House".

Dr. Dennis Gábor

Holography is a photographic process (3-dimensional images) that dates from 1947. Dennis Gabor developed the theory of holography while working to improve the resolution of an electron microscope.

Galileo Galilei

One of the greatest scientists of all history Galileo had proved that the planets revolve around the sun not the earth as people thought at the time. He also invented a crude thermometer, early telescope, and contributed to the invention of the clock.

Charon Robin Ganellin

Charon Ganellin received a patent for Tagamet. Tagamet inhibits the production of stomach acid.

John Garand

John Garand invented the M1 semiautomatic rifle or Garand rifle in 1934.

Bill Gates

Bill Gates is the chairman of Microsoft, their chief software architect, and the creator of many early PC software programs.

William Ged

William Ged was the Scottish goldsmith who invented stereotyping in 1725, a process in which a whole page of type is cast in a single mold so that a printing plate can be made from it.

Joseph Gerber

Joseph Gerber invented the Gerber Variable Scale® and the GERBERcutter®.

Edmund Germer

Edmund Germer invented a high-pressure vapor lamp. His development of the fluorescent lamp and the high-pressure mercury-vapor lamp allowed for more economical lighting with less heat.

A C Gilbert

Gilbert invented the Erector Set, a child's building toy.

Lillian Gilbreth

Lillian Gilbreth created inventions for the home.

Charles P Ginsburg

Charles Ginsburg developed the first practical videotape recorder (VTR).

Robert H Goddard

Robert Goddard and the history of liquid-fueled rockets.

Sarah E Goode

Sarah Goode was the first African American woman to receive a US patent.

Charles Goodyear

Charles Goodyear made improvements in the indian-rubber fabrics used in tires.

James Gosling

Gosling invented Java, a programming language and environment.

Gordon Gould

Gordon Gould invented the laser.

Meredith C Gourdine

Meredith Gourdine invented electrogasdynamics systems.

Bette Nesmith Graham

Bette Graham invented "Liquid Paper".

Sylvester Graham

Sylvester Graham invented Graham Crackers in 1829.

Temple Grandin

Temple Grandin invented livestock handling devices.

Arthur Granjean

Arthur Granjean invented the "Etch-A-Sketch", a child's reusable drawing tool.

George Grant

An improved tapered golf tee was patented in 1899 by George F. Grant.

Wilson Greatbatch

Wilson Greatbatch invented an implantable cardiac pacemaker.

Leonard Michael Greene

Leonard Greene invented a stall warning device for airplanes. Greene has patented dozens of inventions related to aviation technology.

Chester Greenwood

A grammar school dropout, Chester Greenwood invented earmuffs at the age of 15 and accumulated over 100 patents in his lifetime.

David Paul Gregg

David Paul Gregg first envisioned the optical or laser disc in 1958 and patented it in 1969.

KK Gregory

KK Gregory is the ten-year-old famous inventor of Wristies®.

Rudolf Gunnerman

Rudolf Gunnerman invented water-based fuels.

Charles Martin Hall

Charles Hall discovered an electrolytic method of producing aluminum cheaply, putting aluminum into the first wide commercial use in history.

Lloyd Augustus Hall

Lloyd Hall invented meat curing products, seasonings, emulsions, bakery products, antioxidants, protein hydrolysates and many other products.

Joyce Hall

Joyce Hall was a youthful picture postcard peddler who became the big name in greeting cards by starting Hallmark Cards. the history of Hallmark Cards.

Robert Hall

In 1962, Hall invented the semiconductor injection laser, a device now used in all compact disk players and laser printers, and most optical fiber communications systems. Hall also invented the magnetron that operates in most microwave ovens.

Sir William Hamilton

As well as giving his name to the

company he founded in 1939, Hamilton was a famous New Zealander, who invented the modern waterjet propulsion system.

Thomas Hancock

Thomas Hancock was an Englishman, who founded the British rubber industry. He is best known for his invention of the masticator, a machine that shreds rubber scraps, so rubber could be recycled. The history of rubber.

Ruth Handler

The Barbie doll was invented in 1959 by Ruth Handler. The history of Barbie.

William Edward Hanford

William Hanford received a patent for polyurethane in 1942. The history of polyurethane.

Elizabeth Lee Hazen

Elizabeth Hazen invented the world's first useful antifungal antibiotic, Nystatin.

Heinrich Hertz

Hertz was the first to demonstrate the production and detection of Maxwell's waves that lead to the invention of radio.

Lester Hendershot

"The Hendershot Generator" was alleged to produce useable electric power in the range of 200 to 300 watts in 1930.

Beulah Henry

All told, Beulah Henry had about 110 inventions and 49 patents under her belt.

William R Hewlett

William Hewlett invented the audio oscillator and co-founded the electronics company, Hewlett-Packard - the history of Hewlett Packard.

Rene Alphonse Higonnet

Rene Higonnet invented the first practical phototypesetting machine.

Wolf H Hilbertz

Wolf Hilbertz invented sea-crete, a construction material made from the

electrolytic deposition of minerals from seawater.

Lance Hill

A rotary clothes line was developed and marketed by Australian, Lance Hill.

James Hillier

James Hillier was part of the development of the electron microscope.

Dorothy Crowfoot Hodgkin

Hodgkin used X-Rays to find the structural layouts of atoms and the overall molecular shape of over 100 molecules including: penicillin, vitamin B-12, vitamin D and insulin.

Marcian Hoff

Marcian Hoff received a patent for the first computer microprocessor. The history of microprocessor.

Paul Hogan

Paul Hogan and fellow research chemist Robert Banks invented a durable plastic called Marlex.

Herman Hollerith

Herman Hollerith invented a punch-card tabulation machine system for statistical computation.

Richard M Hollingshead

Richard Hollingshead received a patent for; and opened the first drive-in theater.

Krisztina Holly

Krisztina Holly invented telephony software and Visual Voice.

Donald Fletcher Holmes

Donald Holmes received a patent for polyurethane in 1942.

Robert Hooke

Hooke was perhaps the single greatest experimental scientist of the seventeenth century.

Erna Schneider Hoover

Erna Hoover invented the computerized telephone switching system.

Grace Hopper

Grace Hopper was a computer genius associated with the Mark Computer series - the history of computers.

Eugene Houdry

Eugene Houdry invented the manufacture of liquid fuels, the catalytic muffler and a synthetic rubber process.

David Edward Hughes

David Hughes invented the carbon microphone that was essential to the development of the telephone.

Walter Hunt

Walter Hunt invented the safety pin in 1849.

Mary Phelps Jacob

Mary Jacob and the history of the bra. Several patents were issued for women's undergarments.

Clayton Jacobsen II

Clayton Jacobsen invented the Jet Ski.

Thomas Jefferson

Thomas Jefferson was the third President of the United States, who invented the swivel chair, the spherical sundial, the moldboard plow and the cipher wheel.

Charles Francis Jenkins

What John Logie Baird did towards the development and history of mechanical television in Britain, Charles Francis Jenkins did for North America. Jenkins invented a mechanical television system called radiovision and claimed to have transmitted the earliest moving silhouette images on June 14, 1923.

Thomas Jennings

Thomas Jennings was the first African American man to receive a patent on March 3, 1821 (US patent 3306x).

Amanda Theodosia Jones

Amanda Jones changed the history of American food production by inventing vacuum packed canning.

Frederick Jones

Frederick Jones invented the first

automatic refrigeration system for long-haul trucks.

Jack Johnson

The world's first African American heavyweight champion in history, also received a patent for a wrench (U.S. patent #1,413,121) on April 18th, 1922.

Lonnie Johnson

Lonnie Johnson invented the Super Soaker®, a squirt gun. Johnson also invented thermodynamics systems, on the side.

Marjorie Stewart Joyner

Marjorie Joyner invented a permanent wave machine that would allow a hairdo to stay set for days.

Whitcomb Judson

Whitcomb Judson invented the "Clasp Locker", an early version of the zipper.

Ernest Everett Just

Dr. Just, an eminent marine biologist, was considered a leader and authority for his work with cell development.

Percy Lavon Julian

Julian received patents for synthesizing the medicines physostigmine for glaucoma, and cortisone for rheumatoid arthritis. He also received a patent for fire-extinguishing equipment.

Dean Kamen

Dean Kamen invented a portable medication technology.

Nathan Kane

Nathan Kane invented an improved bellows, a modular hydrostatic bearing for machine tools, an opaque overhead projector for children to view artwork and even a TV remote control embedded in a Nerf-like football.

Donald Keck

Donald Keck is known for his fiber-optic communications inventions. He co-invented fiber-optic wire.

Anna Keichline

Anna Keichline created inventions for the home.

Charles Franklin Kettering

Charles Kettering invented the first electrical ignition system for the car and the first practical engine-driven generator.

Mary Kies

Mary Kies was the first woman to receive a US patent on May 15, 1809.

Jack St Clair Kilby

Jack Kilby invented the microchip.

Phil Knight

Phil Knight co-invented the modern athletic shoe or sneakers.

Margaret Knight

Margaret Knight was an employee in a paper bag factory when she invented a new machine part to make square bottoms for paper bags.

Willem J Kolff

Willem Kolff was the inventor of the artificial kidney dialysis machine.

Stephanie Louise Kwolek

Stephanie Kwolek invented para-aramid fibers (Kevlar), used in mooring ropes, fiber-optic cables, aircraft parts, canoes and bullet-resistant vests.

Hedy Lamarr

Hedy Lamarr was a famous movie star and inventor.

John Lambert

America's first gasoline-powered automobile was the 1891 Lambert car invented by John W. Lambert.

Edwin Herbert Land

Edwin Land and the history of polaroid photography.

Irving Langmuir

Irving Langmuir invented the incandescent electric lamp and the high-vacuum electron tube.

Lewis Howard Latimer

Lewis Latimer invented the water closet for railroad cars, an electric lamp with an inexpensive carbon

filament and a threaded wooden socket for light bulbs.

Ernest Orlando Lawrence

Ernest Lawrence invented the cyclotron, a device that greatly increased the speed with which projectiles could be hurled at atomic nuclei.

William Lear

William Lear invented the eight track tape. The history of car radios.

Robert Ledley

Robert Ledley received a patent for diagnostic X-Ray scanner or Cat-Scan.

Jerome Lemelson

Jerome Lemelson was one of the most prolific American of all history and received countless patents.

Dr. Julius Edgar Lilienfeld

Lilienfeld received a patent for a method of cryogenic separation of gases in 1915. He received patents for X-Ray tube technology, point junction transistors, and numerous other inventions.

James Bowman Lindsay

He made early progress on several innovations which were not fully developed until long after his death, including the electric light bulb, wireless telegraphy, and arc-welding. The history of welding.

John Lee Love

The "Love Sharpener" was designed by John Lee Love. Love's invention was the very simple and portable pencil sharpener that many artists use today.

Edward Lowe

Edward Lowe made the trademark name "Kitty Litter®" a part of the American vocabulary.

Paul MacCready

Paul MacCready invented the first human-powered flying machine in history.

Charles Macintosh

Charles Macintosh received a patent for a method for making waterproof garments by using rubber dissolved in coal-tar naphtha for cementing two pieces of cloth together. The mackintosh raincoat was named after Charles Macintosh.

Akhil Madhani

Akhil Madhani was honored with the Lemelson-MIT Award for his robotics invention.

Theodore Harold Maiman

Theodore Maiman received a patent for the Ruby Laser System.

Guglielmo Marconi

In 1895, Marconi invented equipment that transmitted electrical signals through the air (part of telegraphy and radio transmission).

Stanley Mason

Stanley Mason invented a clothespin fishing lure, the first disposable contoured diapers, the squeezable ketchup bottle, the granola bar, a heated pizza box, plastic microwave cookingware, and a dental floss dispenser.

Thomas Massie

Thomas Massie invented the haptic computer interface, a computer interface system that enhances virtual reality.

Sybilla Masters

Sybilla Masters was the first women ever recorded in history for inventing. However, women have been inventing since the dawn of time without the deserved recognition.

Jan Ernst Matzeliger

Jan Matzeliger developed an automatic method for lasting shoes and made the mass-production of affordable shoes possible.

John Maunchly

John Maunchly co-invented the ENIAC computer.

Robert D. Maurer

Maurer invented fiber-optic

communication innovations and co-invented fiber-optic wire.

Stanley Mazor

Mazor received a patent for the first computer microprocessor. The history of the microprocessor.

Cyrus Hall McCormick

Cyrus McCormick was a Chicago industrialist who invented the first commercially successful reaper, a horse-drawn machine that harvested wheat.

Elijah McCoy

McCoy is best known for inventing the automatic oil cup. During his life, McCoy invented and sold 57 different kinds of devices and machine parts including an ironing board and a lawn sprinkler. McCoy received dozens of patents.

James McLurkin

McLurkin invented "Robot Ants" robots.

Gerardus Mercator

The Mercator map projection was invented by Gerardus Mercator as a navigation tool.

Ottmar Mergenthaler

Mergenthaler invented the linotype-composing machine in 1886.

George de Mestral

George de Mestral invented VELCRO®. Mother Nature could not have made it better herself.

John A Miller

John Miller is the "Thomas Edison" of roller coasters.

Irving Millman

Millman co-invented a vaccine against viral hepatitis and developed a test that identified hepatitis B in blood samples.

Dennis Moeller

Dennis Moeller co-invented improvements in computer architecture that allows IBM compatible PCs to share the same peripheral devices.

Gordon E Moore

The Intel co-founder and chairman emeritus discusses the birth of the microprocessor, giving the history a very personal flavor.

Garrett A Morgan

Garrett Morgan invented a gas mask and received a patent for a traffic light.

William G Morgan

William Morgan invented volleyball in 1895, at a YMCA in Holyoke, MA.

Krysta Morlan

Krysta Morlan invented a device that relieves the irritation caused by wearing a cast - the cast cooler.

Samuel Morse

Morse invented telegraph wires and Morse code, an electronic alphabet patented in 1840. The first telegraph read, "What hath God wrought!"

Andrew J Moyer

Moyer's patents were for the industrial production of penicillin.

Louis Marius Moyroud

Louis Moyroud invented the first practical phototypesetting machine.

K Alex Muller

In 1986, Alex Müller and Johannes Georg Bednorz invented the first high-temperature superconductor.

Kary Banks Mullis

Mullis invented PCR, the process for amplifying nucleic acids.

James Naismith

James Naismith was the Canadian physical education instructor who invented basketball in 1891.

Gerhard Neuman

Neuman created innovations in jet aircraft engines.

Alfred Neustadter

Alfred Neustadter invented the Rolodex.

Thomas Newcomen

Thomas Newcomen invented the atmospheric steam engine.

Sir Isaac Newton

Sir Isaac Newton invented the reflecting telescope in 1668.

Julius Nieuwland

Julius Nieuwland was the inventor of the first synthetic rubber called neoprene.

Paul Gottlieb Nipkow

Paul Nipkow invented a rotating-disk technology to transmit pictures over wire in 1884. The Nipkow Disk was the very first electromechanical television scanning system. Nipkow's system was abandoned early in the history of television for the electronic systems developed by later inventors.

Alfred Nobel

Alfred Nobel invented dynamite.

Jean Nollet

Jean Nollet invented the electroscope - a device for detecting electric charge - in 1748.

Robert N Noyce

Robert Noyce was the co-founder of the Intel Corporation and the inventor-pioneer in semiconductor development. Jack Kilby and Robert Noyce co-invented the integrated circuit.

Ellen Ochoa

Ellen Ochoa invented optical analysis systems. Ochoa was the world's first Hispanic female astronaut.

Dr. Hans von Ohain

Dr. Hans von Ohain and Sir Frank Whittle are recognized as the co-inventors of the first jet engine.

Samuel O'Reilly

Samuel O'Reilly and the history of inventions related to tattoos.

Kenneth H Olsen

Kenneth Olsen invented vital computer components and is best known for inventing "Magnetic Core Memory" and for co-founding the Digital Equipment Corporation.

Elisha Graves Otis

Elisha Otis invented the elevator brake, making safe elevators possible.

John Ott

A pioneer of full-spectrum lighting, Ott first became interested in the effects of artificial light while doing time-lapse photography.

Nicolaus August Otto

Nicolaus Otto invented the first practical alternative to the steam engine, the "Four-Stroke Internal-Combustion Engine" or gas motor engine in 1876. He named his invention the "Otto Cycle Engine". As soon as he had completed his engine, Otto invented a motorcycle to use it with.

James Paige

Paige received a patent for the Mark Twain funded Paige Typesetter, a competitor to the linotype machine patented by Ottmar Mergenthaler.

Alice Parker

Alice Parker invented a new and improved gas heating furnace.

Louis W Parker

Louis Parker received a patent for the first television receiver.

John T Parsons

John Parsons' invention changed the control of machines and industrial processes to make more precise functions.

Louis Pasteur

Louis Pasteur discovered that most infectious diseases are caused by germs, known as the "germ theory of disease". Pasteur created inventions based on fermentation, such as improved brewing methods and pasteurization. The history of pasteurization.

Edwin Perkins

Edwin Perkins invented Kool-Aid in 1927.

Charles J Plank

Charles Plank co-invented the first zeolite catalyst, which made gasoline production possible.

Roy J Plunkett

Roy Plunkett invented

tetrafluoroethylene polymers, known as Teflon.

Valdemar Poulsen

The arc transmitter which - contrary to all previous types of radio transmitters - generated continuous radio waves was invented by the Danish engineer Valdemar Poulsen in 1902. Poulsen also invented the telegraphone, for recording telephone conversations.

Dr. Dietrich G. Prinz

Dr. Dietrich Prinz wrote the original chess-playing program for a general purpose computer.

Gaspard de Prony

Famous mathematician who invented the Prony brake - dynamometer.

George Pullman

George Pullman invented the Pullman Sleeping Car in 1857. The history of railroads.

Jacob Rabinow

Jacob Rabinow received a patent for a automated scanning and sorting machines.

Dr William Reich

Dr William Reich built the dangerous Orgone Accumulator. The history of the Orgone Accumulator.

Jesse W Reno

In 1891, Jesse Reno created a new novelty ride at Coney Island. This led to the invention of the escalator.

Ronald J Riley

Ronald Riley invented automated electrified monorail systems.

Norbert Rillieux

Norbert Rillieux invented the sugar processing evaporator. The history of sugar.

Dr. Robert Rines

Dr. Robert Rines and the history of high definition radar and the sonogram. Rines is a patent attorney, a founder of the Franklin Pierce Law Center and a chaser of Loch Ness monster.

Louis Roberts

His research interests focused on microwave and optical techniques and components, plasma research, solid state component and circuit development.

Heinrich Rohrer

Heinrich Rohrer received a patent for the scanning tunneling microscope. The history of microscopes.

Edward J Rosinski

Edward Rosinski co-invented the first zeolite catalyst, making the production of gasoline possible.

Betty Rozier and Lisa Vallino

This mother and daughter team invented the intravenous catheter shield.

Benjamin A Rubin

Benjamin Rubin invented the vaccination needle.

Enro Rubik

Enro Rubik invented the most popular puzzle in history, Rubik's Cube.

Count Rumford

Count Rumford (aka Benjamin Thompson) invented the Rumford fireplace in 1796.

James T Russell

James Russell invented the compact disc.

Edwin Ruud

Edwin Ruud received a patent for the automatic storage water heater in 1889.

Ralph Samuelson

Ralph Samuelson, an eighteen-year-old from Minnesota, proposed the idea that if you could ski on snow, then you could ski on water. He invented waterskiing in 1922.

Santorio Santorio

Santorio invented several instruments: a wind gauge, a water current meter, the "pulsilogium" and a thermoscope (precursor to the thermometer).

Lewis Hastings Sarett

Lewis Sarett received a patent for a

synthetic version of the hormone cortisone.

Viktor Schauburger

Viktor Schauburger is the father of cold fusion energy, derived naturally and non-invasively from the simple use of air and water, and the creator of the first ever, non-energy consuming 'flying disc'.

Arthur Schawlow

Arthur Schawlow received a patent for the maser laser.

Charles Seeberger

The history of the escalator.

Patsy Sherman

Sherman received a patent for Scotchgard.

Henry Shrapnel

Shrapnel is a type of antipersonnel projectile named after its famous inventor, Henry Shrapnel.

Peter Schultz

Peter Schultz created fiber-optic communications inventions and co-invented fiber-optic wire.

Robert Seiwald

Robert Seiwald received a patent for the first antibody labeling agent.

Waldo Semon

Waldo Semon invented a way to make polyvinyl chloride (PVC) useful.

John Sheehan

John Sheehan received a patent for synthesis of natural penicillin.

William Bradford Shockley

William Shockley received a patent for the transistor. The history of the transistor.

Arthur Sicard

Canadian famous inventor, Arthur Sicard invented the snowblower in 1925.

Igor Sikorsky

Igor Sikorsky invented fixed winged and multi-engined aircraft,

transoceanic flying boats and helicopters.

Luther Simjian

He is most famous for his invention of the Bankmatic automatic teller machine (ATM).

Harold Smith

Harold Smith and the history of Crayola Crayons.

Ernest Solvay

Solvay received a patent for the industrial process for sodium carbonate production in 1861.

Carl Sontheimer

Carl Sontheimer invented the Cuisinart.

Percy Spencer

Percy Spencer invented the microwave oven.

Elmer Sperry

Elmer Sperry invented the gyroscopic compass and gyroscope-guided automatic pilots for ships, airplanes and spacecraft.

Richie Stachowski

Richie Stachowski was the kid famous inventor who invented the Water Talkies.

John Standard

An improved refrigerator design was patented by African American, John Standard.

William Stanley Jr

William Stanley received a patent for the induction coil.

Levi Strauss

Levi Strauss and the history of blue jeans.

Charles Proteus Steinmetz

Charles Steinmetz developed theories on alternating current, that allowed for the rapid expansion of the electric power industry.

George R Stibitz

George Stibitz is recognized as being

the father of the modern digital computer.

Rufus Stokes

Rufus Stokes invented an exhaust purifier and an air pollution control device.

William Sturgeon

British electrician, William Sturgeon invented the electromagnet in 1825.

Gideon Sundback

Gideon Sundback received a patent for the "Separable Fastener" or zipper.

Sir Joseph Wilson Swan

Swan produced an early electric light bulb and invented the dry photographic plate.

Byron and Melody Swetland

An interview with the creators of Tekno Bubbles, an innovative variation on the old blowing bubbles that glow under black lights and smell like raspberries.

Leo Szilard

Leo Szilard invented the nuclear fission reactor in 1955.

Donalee L Tabern

Donalee Tabern received a patent for the general anesthetic, Pentothal.

Rusi Taleyarkhan

Rusi Taleyarkhan and team invented a bubble fusion reactor. Taleyarkhan has also invented variable velocity bullets used in a futuristic stun gun.

Toyoichi Tanaka

Toyoichi Tanaka received a patent for Smart Gels, a synthetic (polyacrylamide) polymer gel with unusual properties.

Ralph Teetor

Unstopped by his blindness, Ralph Teetor invented cruise control.

Lewis Temple

The toggle iron harpoon was designed in 1848 by Lewis Temple, this was the standard harpoon used in American whaling from the mid-19th through the early 20th centuries.

Nikola Tesla

He invented an AC motor and transformer, X-Ray technology, a vacuum tube amplifier and the Tesla Coil. Nikola Tesla claimed the invention of an electrical generator that would not "consume any fuel". The Supreme Court overturned Marconi's radio patent in 1943, in favor of Tesla's patent.

Mark Thatcher

Mark Thatcher invented Teva Sandals.

Benjamin Thompson/Count Rumford

Count Rumford (aka Benjamin Thompson) invented the Rumford fireplace in 1796.

Benjamin Tilghman

Benjamin Tilghman received the first British patent for sand blasting equipment in 1870.

Henry Timken

Henry Timken received a patent for the Timken or tapered roller bearings.

Max Tishler

Max Tishler invented methods for synthesizing the essential vitamin B2 and a poultry disease antibiotic.

Charles Townes

Charles Townes invented the Maser (Microwave Amplification by Stimulated Emission).

Brent Townshend

The 56K modem was invented by Dr. Brent Townshend in 1996.

Earl S Tupper

Earl Tupper invented Tupperware.

Evangelista Torricelli

The barometer was invented by Evangelista Torricelli in 1643. The history of the barometer.

Richard Trevithick

The first locomotive in the world was built by Richard Trevithick in 1804.

Lisa M Vallino and Betty M Rozier

The mother and daughter team that invented the intravenous catheter shield.

Tuan Vo-Dinh

Tuan Vo-Dinh invented optical diagnostic equipment. Vo-Dinh's patents were for a badge worn on a worker's shirt that recorded exposure to toxic chemicals and for an optical scanner that would read that badge.

Alessandro Volta

Alessandro Volta invented the voltaic pile, a forerunner to the electric battery. The history of batteries.

Ernest H Volwiler

Ernest Volwiler co-invented the general anesthetic, Pentothal.

Craven Walker

Craven Walker invented the swinging 60's icon, the Lava Lite® lamp.

Hildreth "Hal" Walker

Hal Walker received a patent for laser telemetry and targeting systems.

Madame Walker

Madame Walker was a St. Louis washerwoman turned entrepreneur, who invented a method to soften and smooth kinky hair.

Mary Walton

Mary Walton invented several anti-pollution devices during the Industrial Revolution.

An Wang

An Wang received a patent for the principles of magnetic core memory.

Lewis Edson Waterman

Lewis Edson Waterman invented an improved fountain pen.

James Watt

James Watt invented improvements to the steam engine.

Robert Weitbrecht

Robert Weitbrecht invented TTY also called TDD or the tele-typewriter.

James Edward West

James West holds 47 US and more than 200 foreign patents on microphones and techniques for making polymer foil-electrets.

George Westinghouse

George Westinghouse perfected the first automatic, electric block signal. He helped spearhead the development of alternating current and figured out an efficient way to transmit clean, natural gas to homes. He invented an improvement to steam-powered brakes or air brakes.

Don Wetzel

Don Wetzel and the history of the modern automated teller machines (ATM).

Schulyer Wheeler

In 1886, Schulyer Wheeler invented the electric fan.

John Thomas White

African American, John White patented a lemon squeezer in 1896.

Eli Whitney

Eli Whitney invented the cotton gin in 1794. The cotton gin is a machine that separates seeds, hulls and other unwanted materials from cotton after it has been picked.

Sir Frank Whittle

Hans von Ohain and Frank Whittle and the history of the jet engine.

Stephen Wilcox

Stephen Wilcox received a patent for the water tube steam boiler.

Dr Daniel Hale Williams

Dr. Daniel Hale Williams was a pioneer in open heart surgery.

Robert R Williams

Robert Williams invented ways to synthesize vitamins.

Thomas Willson

Thomas Leopold Willson invented a process for Calcium Carbide.

Granville T Woods

Granville Woods invented improvements to electric railways, air brakes, telephones and telegraphs, a chicken egg incubator and an apparatus for an amusement park ride.

Wilbur and Orville Wright

Wilbur Wright and Orville Wright

received a patent for a "flying machine" that we know as the airplane.

Arthur Wynne

Arthur Wynne invented the crossword puzzle.

Gumpei Yokoi

Gumpei Yokoi was the creator of the Game Boy.

Hajib (Gene) Zaid

Hajib Zaid invented corrosion inhibitor industrial chemicals.

Frank Zamboni

Frank Zamboni invented the ice resurfacing machine called the zamboni.

Ferdinand Zeppelin

Ferdinand Zeppelin invented the rigid dirigible, a lighter-than-air vehicle called the zeppelin.

Konrad Zuse

Konrad Zuse was the inventor of the first freely programmable computer.

Vladimir Kosma Zworykin

Vladimir Zworykin invented the cathode-ray tube called the kinescope in 1929, a tube needed for television transmission. Zworykin also invented the iconoscope, an early television camera.