

## History of IT Timeline

In all of history, few inventions have had the level of impact on society that computers have had. In addition, this impact occurred in a dramatically shorter time span with large-scale computer usage only dating back perhaps to the late 20th century. This rapid impact and evolutionary improvement is like nothing we've experienced with any other human innovation.

### 1948

The Manchester Mark 1 was one of the first ever stored-program computers. It was developed at the Victoria University of Manchester and became operational on June 1948. Work on the program started in late August 1948, and the initial version was operational by early April 1949. Its first ever computer program was written to search for Mersenne primes and ran continuously for nine hours straight.

### 1954

IBM sold 450 of its first mass-produced computer in just one year. The IBM Model 650 magnetic data storage allowed faster access to stored information than other machines at the time. The Model 650 was very popular in universities where a generation of students first learned computer programming. In 1956, direct keyboard input was introduced to replace punched cards and paper tape input.

### 1958

The first large-scale computer communications. Network SAGE connects 23 computer sites in the US and Canada. The system was used to detect incoming Soviet bombers and direct interceptor aircraft to destroy them.

### 1960

The DEC PDP-1 computer systems retailed for approximately \$120,000 and required only one operator. Its large scope intrigued early hackers at MIT who wrote the first computer video game: Spacewar! and programs to play music as well. More than 50 PDP-1 computer systems were sold.

### 1968

Data General introduces the Nova minicomputer. It has 32 KB memory and sold for \$9,900. The Nova computers were popular throughout the 1970's and influenced many later systems.

### 1971

Intel introduces the first microprocessor the Intel 4004 which could perform up to 90,000 operations per second. The first laser printer was launched by Xerox launching a new era in printing.

## 1974

Intel introduces the 8080 microprocessor which could address a total of 64 Kilobytes.

## 1976

Steve Wozniak creates the first Apple I® with friend Steve Jobs. With an order for 50 assembled systems they started Apple Computer Inc.

## 1977-1978

- 1977: Apple II® sold with keyboard, case, manual game paddles and cassette tape containing the game breakout.
- 1978: Atari launches Model 400 and 800 computers using the marketing slogan of “Computers for People.”

## 1981

MS-DOS, the Microsoft operating system, became the most licensed operating system. Sony introduces the 3 ½ inch floppy drive and diskettes, which became the microflop standard for portable storage. IBM launches the IBM PC with Intel 8088 microprocessor and Microsoft’s MSDOS operating system.

## 1982-1983

CD-ROMs able to hold 550 MB of prerecorded data are developed by Philips. Microsoft announces Microsoft Word® and by 1989 it became a global word processing standard.

## 1984

Apple launches the Macintosh, the first successful mouse-driven computer with a graphical user interface and a 68000 microprocessor. Compaq Computer Corporation introduces the first 100% compatible computer, the Compaq portable that can run the same software as the IBM PC.

## 1986

Compaq introduces the first computer to use the new 80386 chip, a 32-bit microprocessor with 4 million operations per second and 4 KB of memory.

## 1990

Tim Berners-Lee invents the World Wide Web at CERN in Switzerland. The web is made publicly available on 6 August 1991. Microsoft delivers Windows 3.0 providing the ability to run multiple programs simultaneously on the Intel 80386 chip.

## 1992

JPEG (Joint Photographic Expert Group) creates a set of standards for digital images.

## 1993

Mosaic, the first popular browser for the web, is created. Online advertisements on the web begin. By the end of the decade, over 360 million users are active on the web.

## 1994

CompactFlash memory storage is introduced by SanDisk and becomes popular. Sony releases the Playstation® console and becomes a dominant player in the home gaming market.

## 1997

IBM's Deep Blue chess computer defeats world chess champion Gary Kasparov. Text messaging becomes the norm after commencing in 1992 accelerated by the introduction of the Nokia 6110, the Blackberry, and other mobile phones.

## 2000

First camera phones are introduced. USB flash drives are introduced for data storage and backing up as well as transferring files between devices. Honda introduces ASIMO (Advanced Step in Innovative Mobility) humanoid robot.

## 2001

iTunes released for the Mac operating system only as a media player and management tool. By 2013, over 25 billion songs had been downloaded from the iTunes store. Microsoft launches the Xbox based on Microsoft's DirectX graphics technology.

## 2006

The verb "to google" was added to the Oxford English and Merriam-Webster dictionaries. Amazon Web Services launches cloud-based services allowing users to rent virtual time on the cloud to scale server capacity. Similar services like Google Drive follow.

## 2007

Amazon Kindle is released. Apple iPhone is released with apps available from the Apple Store. Google's Android mobile platform followed.

## 2010

Apple iPad is released with a nine-inch screen and without a phone. The device has been adapted for thousands of different applications. Apple Retina display for MacBooks offers screen resolution of up to 220 pixels per inch. IBM Watson beats former Jeopardy Champion contestant. In 2011, Watson beats two former champions.

## 2011

Adobe Creative Cloud is announced as a subscription model of distribution for its major software products.

## 2012

Raspberry Pi, a small single board computer, is released as a tool to promote science education. Each weighs 45 grams and is initially sold for \$25-35 USD.

## 2013

Microsoft Office 365 is announced offering Microsoft's product suite online for a subscription.

## 2014

Apple Pay mobile payment system is introduced into Apple's product ecosystem.

## 2015

Apple Watch is released incorporating Apple iOS operating system with sensors for environment and health monitoring.

## 2019

Oculus releases the Oculus Rift S with a 2,560 x 1,440 LCD and one more camera facing upwards.