

799-700 BCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The city of Rome is founded by Romulus and Remus.</li> <li>• Lasting just one day, the first recorded Olympic Games are held at Olympia in Greece.</li> </ul>
499-400 BCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20,000 Persians defeat 300 Spartans at the Battle of Thermopylae.</li> <li>• Myron sculpts the Greek Discus Thrower in bronze, but today on Roman marble copies survive.</li> </ul>
399-300 BCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alexander the Great becomes King of Macedonia and begins to expand his father's empire.</li> <li>• Attended 20 years later by a young Aristotle, Plato establishes a school in Akademia, a suburb of Athens.</li> </ul>
299-200 BCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Archimedes cries 'Eureka!' in the bath, after observing the displacement of water by his body.</li> <li>• The Chinese Emperor Shi Huangdi dies and is buried with 8000 clay soldiers – the terracotta army of Xi'an.</li> </ul>
199-100 BCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With his home in Carthage destroyed, Hannibal commits suicide while fleeing the Romans.</li> <li>• The Silk Road is established from China to Persia, allowing good to reach Rome.</li> </ul>
99-1 BCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Julius Caesar dies after being stabbed in the Senate.</li> <li>• The first sumo wrestling contest takes place in Japan. It is won by Sukune, now the patron saint of wrestlers.</li> </ul>
1-99	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seating nearly 50,000, the Colosseum amphitheatre opens in Rome with 100 days of games.</li> <li>• Mount Vesuvius erupts, covering the cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum in six feet of lava and ash.</li> </ul>

100-199	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Olmecs build the Pyramid of the Sun at Teotihuacan, a vast city in Mexico.</li> <li>• Emperor Hadrian orders the construction of a wall from coast to coast in Britain.</li> </ul>
200-299	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roman Emperor Diocletian divides the Roman Empire. He takes the East, and Maximian takes the West.</li> <li>• St Anthony begins a hermetic life in the Egyptian desert, roughly the start of Christian monasticism.</li> </ul>
300-399	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roman emperor Constantine completes a new Christian capital in Byzantium, or Constantinople.</li> <li>• The Chinese improve the Arabian barefoot toe loop for horse-riding into a full metal stirrup.</li> </ul>
400-499	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The great Mayan city of Chichen Itza in the Yucatan peninsula is first recorded.</li> <li>• Indian mathematician and astronomer Aryabhata is born. He is one of the first to use algebra.</li> </ul>
500-599	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roman monk Dionysius Exiguus creates the Christian calendar, establishing the year 1 for the first time.</li> <li>• The huge Church of Hagia Sophia in Constantinople is finished.</li> </ul>
600-699	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mohammed's (PBUH) flight from a hostile Mecca is considered the beginning of Islam and Muslim Year 1.</li> <li>• Zero and negative numbers first appear in a book by Indian mathematician Brahmagupta.</li> </ul>
800-899	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alfred the Great becomes King of Wessex and begins to combat the Viking invasion.</li> <li>• Pope Leo III crowns Charlemagne as Emperor of the Romans, and establishes the Holy Roman Empire.</li> </ul>

1314	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pope Clement V disbands the Knights Templar, burning the Grand Master at the stake two years later.</li> <li>• Berthold Shwartz, a German Franciscan monk, discovers gunpowder three centuries after the Chinese.</li> </ul>
1410-1419	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Famous French heroine, Joan of Arc, is born in the village of Domremy.</li> <li>• Brunelleschi wins a competition to design and construct the dome of Florence cathedral.</li> </ul>
1450-1459	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The new ruler of Wallachia becomes known as Vlad the Impaler.</li> <li>• Johannes Gutenberg creates the first printed book, known as the Gutenberg Bible.</li> </ul>
1480-1489	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Botticelli paints <i>The Birth of Venus</i>, one of the most famous paintings of the Italian Renaissance.</li> <li>• The Battle of Bosworth ends the War of the Roses in England, as Henry VII defeats Richard III.</li> </ul>
1510-1519	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Italian writer Niccolo Machiavelli begins writing <i>The Prince</i>, which gives rise to the term 'Machiavellian'.</li> <li>• Thomas More publishes his humanist vision of society in <i>Utopia</i>.</li> </ul>
1534	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Act of Supremacy establishes Henry VIII as the Supreme Head of the Church of England.</li> <li>• Martin Luther translates the Latin Bible into German, making it directly accessible to ordinary people.</li> </ul>
1580-1589	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Francis Drake returns to England as a hero after circumnavigating the world.</li> <li>• The Gregorian Calendar is introduced by Pope Gregory XIII and most Catholic countries take it up.</li> </ul>

1630-1639	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In an early example of an economic speculation bubble, the Dutch tulip market collapses.</li> <li>• Condemned as a heretic and faced with instruments of torture, Galileo is forced to deny Copernicus' theory of heliocentricity (that the sun was at the centre of the universe).</li> </ul>
1600	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shakespeare's <i>The Merchant of Venice</i> and <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> are published.</li> <li>• William Adams and other survivors of a three-year sea journey become the first Englishmen to arrive in Japan.</li> </ul>
1641	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Galileo states that the pendulum would make an ideal mechanism for a clock.</li> <li>• The terms 'cavalier' and 'roundhead' are used in the dispute between the English Parliament and the king.</li> </ul>
1690	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The clarinet is invented by Johann Christoph Denner in Nuremberg.</li> <li>• James II is defeated by William III at the Battle of the Boyne in Ireland.</li> </ul>
1707	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Act of Union between England and Scotland creates the Kingdom of Great Britain.</li> <li>• Swedish botanist Carl Linnaeus, who will go on to establish naming conventions for all living things, is born.</li> </ul>
1720-1729	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• George I, King of Great Britain and Elector of Hanover, dies and is succeeded by his son George II.</li> <li>• Jonathan Swift sends his hero on a series of adventures in <i>Gulliver's Travels</i>.</li> </ul>
1746	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Jacobite Rising is defeated at the Battle of Culloden and Bonnie Prince Charlie will never be king.</li> <li>• Samuel Johnson signs a contract for his <i>Dictionary of the English Language</i>, which he finishes nine years later.</li> </ul>

1776	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Declaration of Independence is adopted: America's 13 colonies separate themselves from British rule.</li> <li>• The first working steam engines, designed by James Watt and built by Matthew Boulton, are installed.</li> </ul>
1829	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• William Burt obtains the first US patent for the typewriter.</li> <li>• British Prime Minister Robert Peel found the Metropolitan Police, giving London its first glimpse of 'Bobbies'.</li> </ul>
1844	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The Condition of the Working Class in England</i> is published by German philosopher Friedrich Engels.</li> <li>• Using the daguerreotype, Mathew B. Brady opens his first photographic studio in New York.</li> </ul>
1863	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation decrees that all slaves in Confederate states are free.</li> <li>• Passengers pile on to the London Underground's first service from Paddington to Farringdon.</li> </ul>
1879	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• US inventor Thomas Alva Edison successfully develops his electric light bulb.</li> <li>• The British army suffers a major defeat against Zulu warriors at Isandhlwana.</li> </ul>
1894	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More than 70 years before the Disney film, children's animal tales appear in Rudyard Kipling's <i>The Jungle Book</i>.</li> <li>• Commercial motion pictures are screened for the first time when a Kinetoscope parlour opens in New York.</li> </ul>
1901	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Having acquired a worldwide empire and overseen industrial expansion, long-reigning Queen Victoria dies.</li> <li>• Guglielmo Marconi transmits the letter 'S' in Morse code from Cornwall to Canada via radio signal.</li> </ul>

1905	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Albert Einstein presents his special theory of relativity, leaving to <math>E=mc^2</math>, the law of mass-energy equivalence.</li> <li>• Revolutionary unrest sweeps Russia on 'Bloody Sunday' after the army kills 130 protesting industrial workers.</li> </ul>
1907	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Britain and France's Entente Cordiale becomes the Triple Entente when Russia joins the alliance.</li> <li>• Brothers Louis and Jacques Breguet build their Gyroplane No. 1, the first manned craft capable of vertical flight.</li> </ul>
1914	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gavrilo Princip makes history when he kills Franz Ferdinand, the Austro-Hungarian heir to the throne.</li> <li>• <i>Tarzan of the Apes</i> appears in book form in Edgar Rice Burrough's jungle adventure novel.</li> </ul>
1918	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kaiser Wilhelm II abdicates, and the new German republic accepts the Allies' armistice terms.</li> <li>• The Spanish flu pandemic starts in China and spreads worldwide, ultimately killing more people than the war that had just ended.</li> </ul>
1926	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• British trade unions call a General Strike in support of the miners, but call it off after nine days.</li> <li>• Escape artist Harry Houdini dies of a ruptured appendix, aggravated by a punch to the stomach.</li> </ul>
1928	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stalin implements the first Five-Year Plan, bringing rapid industrialisation and forces collectivisation of agriculture.</li> <li>• An accident with bacteria culture and mould leads Alexander Flemind to discover penicillin.</li> </ul>
1930	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• US antronomer Clyde W. Tombaugh discovers Pluto, naming it after the Greek god of the underworld.</li> <li>• Host nation Uruguay beats Argentina to win the first football World Cup.</li> </ul>

1938	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain return from Germany bringing 'peace with honour'.</li> <li>MGM announces that child star Judy Garland is to be cast in the role of Dorothy in the upcoming <i>Wizard of Oz</i>.</li> </ul>
1944	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The largest seaborne invasion in history takes place on D-Day, as the Allies land in Normandy.</li> <li>At the Pasteur Intitute in Paris, Daniel Bovet develops the first working antihistamine.</li> </ul>
1946	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The term 'Iron Curtain' is first used in a speech by Winston Churchill about the Soviet Union.</li> <li>Researchers at Pennsylvania University unveil the ENIAC, the first general-purpose electronic computer.</li> </ul>
1954	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oxford professor J.R.R. Tolkein publishes <i>The Lord of the Rings</i>, almost 50 years before Peter Jackson's film version.</li> <li>Elvis Presley's first record, <i>That's All Right</i>, is released.</li> </ul>
1956	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev sends troops into Hungary to put down an uprising against Communist rule.</li> <li>Sleepy-heads everywhere greet the world's first alarm clock with a 'snooze' function, made by General Electric/Telechron.</li> </ul>
1957	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>West Side Story</i>, Leonard Bernstein and Stephen Sondheim's musical updating of <i>Romeo and Juliet</i>, is first staged.</li> <li>Laika the dog becomes the first living creature in space when she is launched aboard Sputnik II.</li> </ul>
1960	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon appear in the first live TV debate between US presidential candidates.</li> <li>Nazi fugitive Adolf Eichmann is captured by the Israeli secret service Mossad in Argentina.</li> </ul>

1969	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apollo 11 astronaut Neil Armstrong makes ‘one giant leap for mankind’ as he steps on the moon.</li> <li>• Czech student Jan Palach protests against the Soviet occupation of Czechoslovakia.</li> </ul>
1971	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The microprocessor, containing processor and computer memory, is invented by Intel designers.</li> <li>• Walt Disney World opens in Florida.</li> </ul>
1977	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a disturbance in the Force as the original <i>Star Wars</i> film by George Lucas is released.</li> <li>• The sleek and expensive Porsche 928 is unveiled at the Geneva Motor Show.</li> </ul>
1982	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After 18 years as Soviet leader, Leonid Brezhnev dies.</li> <li>• The first compact disc players go on sale.</li> </ul>
1983	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Madonna’s first hit single, <i>Holiday</i>, is released.</li> <li>• US president Ronald Reagan describes the Soviet Union as an ‘evil empire’.</li> </ul>
1984	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arnold Schwarzenegger stars as a killer cyborg in <i>The Terminator</i>.</li> <li>• Later to be used in criminal investigations, scientists make the first genetic fingerprint.</li> </ul>
1986	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Andrew Lloyd Webber’s musical <i>The Phantom of the Opera</i> opens at Her Majesty’s Theatre, London.</li> <li>• With Maradona’s ‘Hand of God’, Argentina knock England out and go on to win the World Cup in Mexico.</li> </ul>
1991	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Super Nintendo video console is introduced.</li> <li>• The world’s first website, alt.hypertext, is created at CERN by Tim Berners-Lee. The World Wide Web is born.</li> </ul>

1994	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kurt Cobain, lead singer of Nirvana and grunge hero, commits suicide.</li> <li>• England and France are joined when the world's longest underwater tunnel, the Channel Tunnel, opens.</li> </ul>
1996	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Microsoft founder Bill Gates, with a fortune of \$20 billion, is declared the world's richest man.</li> <li>• Anarchist Theodore Kaczynski, known as the Unabomber, is arrested in Montana after a 16-year bombing campaign.</li> </ul>
1999	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The first BlackBerry is released, combining a mobile phone with a QWERTY keyboard for email.</li> <li>• <i>The Matrix</i>, the first in the iconic trilogy of sci-fi films, is released.</li> </ul>
2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The British School of Bucharest is founded.</li> <li>• The Australian city, Sydney, hosts the 27<sup>th</sup> Olympic Games.</li> </ul>
2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Animated movies <i>Shrek</i> and <i>Monsters Inc</i> are among the year's top grossing films.</li> <li>• Terrorists explode bombs in two crowded nightclubs in Bali, killing more than 200 people.</li> </ul>
2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coldplay's second album, <i>A Rush of Blood to the Head</i>, is released.</li> <li>• NASA's Mars Odyssey space probe uses thermal imaging to begin mapping the surface of Mars.</li> </ul>
2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hurricane Katrina devastates New Orleans, killing more than 1800 people.</li> <li>• Sixteen years after its last series, <i>Doctor Who</i> returns to BBC1 with Christopher Eccleston as the ninth doctor.</li> </ul>
2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The new Wembley Stadium, featuring a 1,000-foot arch instead of the iconic towers, hosts its first FA Cup final.</li> <li>• Apple's Steve Jobs unveils the first iPhone.</li> </ul>