

Book History Timeline

c. 2400 BC	Earliest surviving papyrus scrolls.
c. 650	Papyrus scroll introduced into Greece from Egypt.
c. 400-300	Silk writing materials employed in China.
295	Alexandria Library founded.
c. 100	Vegetable-fiber paper developed in China.
1 st Cent. AD	MS. book format shifts from scroll to codex.
c. 370	Rome estimated to have 28 libraries.
610	Papermaking introduced into Japan from China.
c. 700	Paper sizing developed in Asia.
c. 750-800	Papermaking reaches Central Asia and Middle East.
868	<i>Diamond Sutra</i> published in China, earliest extant example of woodblock printing.
875	Arab travelers mentioning having seen toilet paper in China.
896	Oldest extant manuscript featuring colophon.
c. 1041-48	Pi Shêng develops movable type in China, amalgam of clay and glue.
11 th Cent.	Papermaking reaches Moorish Spain.
1255	Paper mill established in Genoa.
1276	Watermarked paper introduced in Tuscany at Fabriano Mills.
1337	Earliest known use of paper sizing in Europe.
1373	Bibliothèque Nationale founded in Lyons.
c. 1400	Printing with movable copper types in Korea.
1403	Company of Stationers founded in London.
1418	Earliest extant example of woodblock printing in Europe.
1430	Earliest extant examples of xylographic of block books.
1454	Gutenberg prints indulgences on lead-based movable type with a textura face in Mainz.
1456	Gutenberg prints Bible.
1457	Psalmorum Codex published by Fust and Schoffer in Mainz; first extant printed book with colophon; also Mainz Psalter, earliest example of color printing.
c. 1460	Mentelin established press in Strasbourg.
1465	First printed book in Italy.
1466	Ulrich Zell establishes press in Cologne.
1467	First use of roman type face in printed book.
1470	Gering prints first book in Paris.
1472	Wendelin de Spira of Venice begins using type with a rotunda face.
1476	Caxton establishes press in Westminster.
1477	<i>Monte sancto di Dio</i> published in Florence, the first printed book to include engraved illustrations.
c. 1485	Schwabacher branch of bastarda face emerges.

- 1493 Earliest extant books containing etchings.
- 1495 John Tate establishes first English paper mill in Hertfordshire.
- 1498 Ottaviano Petrucci of Venice develops types for printing music.
- 1500 Printing established in more than 250 European cities.
- c. 1500 First italic font cut for Aldus Manitius by Francesco Griffo.
- c. 1512 Fraktur branch of bastarda face emerges.
- 1513 Richard Faques publishes *The Trewe Encountre* in London, the earliest extant English news-book.
- 1534 Cambridge University Press founded; first book printed 1583.
- 1539 First North American Press established in Mexico City.
- 1557 Robert Granjon of Lyons publishes first book printed with types featuring Civilité face.
- 1557 London Stationers' Company granted royal charter.
- 1559 *Index Librorum Prohibitorum* ordered by Paul IV.
- 1575-80 First North American paper mill, southeast of Mexico City.
- 1586 Star Chamber decree confirming Oxford University's right to print books.
- 1588 John Spilman establishes first successful mill producing white paper in England.
- 1593 Earliest known European printing in Philippine Islands.
- 1609 First newspaper, *Avisa Relation oder Zeitung*, issued in Strasbourg.
- 1621 First English newspaper, *The Corante*.
- 1639 First press in North American British colonies, Cambridge, MA.
- 1642 Mezzotint process invented by Ludwig von Siegen.
- 1653 First North American public library founded in Boston.
- 1663 Licensing Act establishes legal copyright and codifies practice of deposit library in England.
- 1673 Hollander pulp-making machine invented.
- 1683-4 Joseph Moxon publishes *Mechanick Exercises on the Whole Art of Printing*. First printing manual.
- 1690 First North American newspaper, *Publick Occurrences*, published in Boston, MA. Suppressed after one issue.
- 1690 Paper mill established near Germantown, PA.
- 1695 Expiration of the Licensing Act of 1663.
- 1699 150 working paper mills in England.
- c. 1700 First substantial books printed from stereotyped plates.
- 1702 First daily English newspaper, *Daily Courant*. Survives 30 years.
- 1705 First successful North American newspaper, the *Boston News Letter*.

- 1709 Copyright Act limits terms of copyright protection in England.
- 1734 Aquatint process invented by Jean-Baptiste Le Prince.
- 1739 William Ged experiments with stereotype plates made from plaster-of-Paris molds.
- 1752 First Canadian newspaper, *Halifax Gazette*.
- 1753 British Museum founded.
- 1755 James Whatman builds wove hand-made paper moulds for Baskerville.
- 1758 First known forgeries of English banknotes.
- 1774 House of Lords invalidates Copyright Act of 1709.
- 1788 First press imported to Australia.
- 1790 William Nicholson registers first patents for his cylinder printing press.
- 1793 France sets copyright protection for two years after author's death.
- 1798-9 Louis-Nicolas Robert invents first paper-making machine.
- 1798 William Stanhope builds first iron press.
- 1798 Alois Senefelder invents lithography.
- 1800 Library of Congress founded.
- 1804 Henry and Sealy Fourdrinier buy patent for Robert paper-making machine, the basis for the Fourdrinier machine.
- 1809 John Dickinson registers first patents for his cylinder paper-making machine.
- 1810 185 working paper mills in the US.
- 1812 Friedrich Koenig perfects first steam-powered, flat-bed-and-cylinder press.
- 1814 *The Times* (London) prints first issue using Koenig press, 29 November, 1,000 impressions per hour.
- 1816 Koenig adds perfector to his press.
- 1822 Dr. William Church patents first cold-metal composing machine.
- 1825 First dandy rolls used in paper making, built by John Marshall.
- 1827 Cowper & Applegate develop four-cylinder steam press capable of 4,000-5,000 impressions per hour.
- 1829 William Austin Burt invents early typewriter.
- 1829 First stereotype plates made from flong molds used in Lyons.
- c. 1830 Isaac and Seth Adams manufacture bed-and-platen machine press.
- c. 1830 Hopkinson and Cope manufacture double-platen machine press.
- 1833 Daguerreotype process invented.

- 1835 Robert Baxter registers patent for letterpress color printing process.
- c. 1840 Electrotype process developed.
- 1841 Tauchnitz introduces line of paperback editions.
- 1843 Mechanically-processed wood pulp used for paper making in Germany.
- 1846 Richard Hoe patents horizontal rotary press.
- 1853 Mechanically-processed wood pulp used for paper making in England.
- 1863 William Bullock patents reel-fed rotary printing machine.
- 1868 *The Times* (London) installs Walter press that prints on continuous roll of paper.
- 1870s Chemically-produced wood pulp introduced to paper making.
- 1875 JGA Eickhoff builds four-cylinder perfecting press.
- 1878 Remington introduces typewriter featuring shift key for upper-case letters.
- 1886 Ottmar Mergenthaler invents Linotype hot metal composing machine.
- 1886 Berne Convention establishes international reciprocity of copyright protection.
- 1887 *The New York Tribune* begins using Linotype for composition.
- 1889 Tolbert Lanston produces first Monotype composing machine.
- 1892 The Bibliographical Society founded in London.
- 1904 Ira Rubel develops first commercial lithographic system for printing on paper.
- 1904 The Bibliographical Society of America founded in New York.
- 1935 IBM markets Electromatic, first successful electric typewriter.
- 1938 Chester F. Carlson invents xerography.
- 1945 Monotype Corp. introduces Intertype Fotosetter, the first phototypesetter.
- 1955 Universal Copyright Convention establishes copyright protection for 50 years after author's death.
- 1959 Xerox markets first xerographic photocopier.
- 1967 OCLC founded.
- 1975 IBM introduces first laser printer.
- 1983 RBS founded.
- 1995 Jeff Bezos founds Amazon.com.
- 1995 Instabook applies for print-on-demand technology patent.
- 1997 International copyright protection extended to 70 years after author's death.
- 2004 Google announces Google Print project.