

A hundred years ago, computers took up entire rooms and traveling from New York to Australia took almost four months. Fast forward to the digital age: Super computers that fit in our pockets keep us connected to the rest of the world, and the only form of travel that takes months at a time is an interstellar trek from Earth to Mars. As we sit on the precipice of another hundred-year technological revolution, here's a look at the inventions that paved our technological path this past century.



:THE RADIO Before radios entered the home, they were

primarily used to send and receive Morse code signals to military and commercial ships. Then broadcast entered the marketplace...

1922

forms the first national network, called NBC (National Broadcasting Company). 1926

RCA (Radio Corporation of America)

in New York City.

The first radio ad airs



or \$350 for more advanced models. (That's about \$500 - \$5,000 today!)

FUN FACT: In 1925 a home radio was about \$35,

1930s

Prior to the 1930s, duplicating documents

:PHOTOCOPIERS

was conducted by hand, but photocopiers changed all that. It transformed the way we do businesses and set the stage for the 3-D printers we know today.



Chester Carlson invents a method of transferring images from one piece of

1937

1946

The first known photocopy, the

"10-22-38 Astoria," is created.

paper to another using static electricity, a handkerchief, light and dry powder.

1940s

(OR THE COMPUTER) Then there was the computer. The

original machine, aptly known as

:THE GIANT BRAIN

"The Giant Brain," definitely lived up to its name: The device was the size and weight of a small house! **FUN FACT:** firing tables. 1943

US army begins research for a

accurately calculate artillery

mechanism that can quickly and

ENIAC (Electronic Numerical

recognized as the world's first

computer, is completed.

Integrator and Computer), widely

1950s

With the invention of color television, the 1950s transformed the way people saw the world.

:COLOR TV

(That is, except in Australia, where color TV didn't captivate audiences until the '70s.) CBS broadcasts the first

It cost the army \$500,000 to

build the first ENIAC.

for \$1,000 (About \$9,500 today!) 1953

:THE COMPUTER MOUSE

Where would we be without the invention

of the computer mouse? We may point and

click a thousand times a day without much

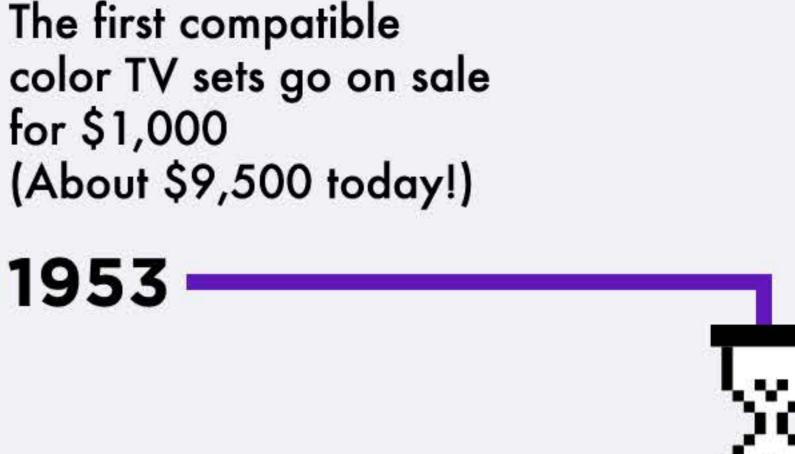
unsuspecting technological feat - including

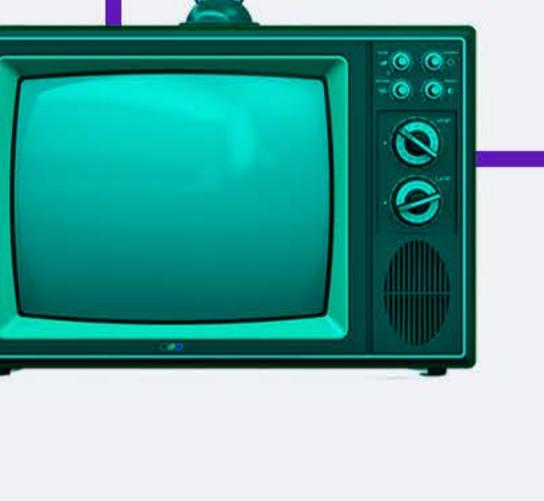
thought, but we owe so much to this

commercial color TV

program, "Premiere."

1951





the cord in front, which inventor Doug Englebart soon refers to as a "mouse" because

1964

The first prototype of the

computer mouse is made with

of its size and "tail." 1967 The first modern mouse is made and introduced to the world during The Mother of

All Demos experimental

computer technology event.



1960s

the personal computer and internet. **FUN FACT:** Several devices were considered before

1970s **:LASER PRINTERS** It all started with the printing press

trackballs, light pens, joysticks, etc.

printer, EARS,

The original laser

settling on the design of the mouse including



monumental achievement of technological breakthroughs and insightful engineering.

five centuries later was a

in 1439, but what evolved nearly

:COMPACT DISCS 1980s You may have traded in most of your CDs for streaming services,

emerges.

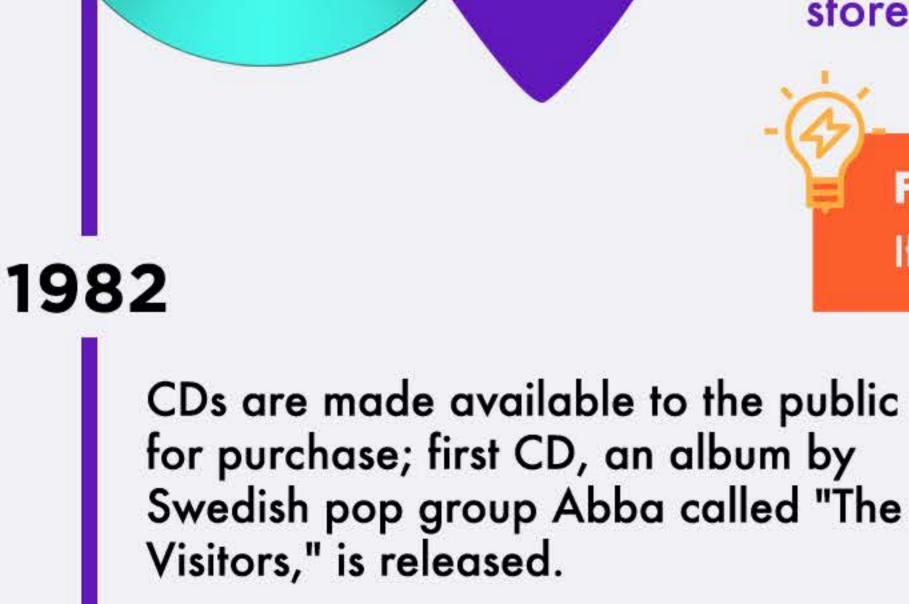
1985

The first commercial

by IBM; HP develops

the first inkjet printer.

laser printer is released



1990s

The first text message is

sent, saying "Merry

Christmas."

2000

FUN FACT:

Approximately 6 billion

USB devices exist in

the world today.

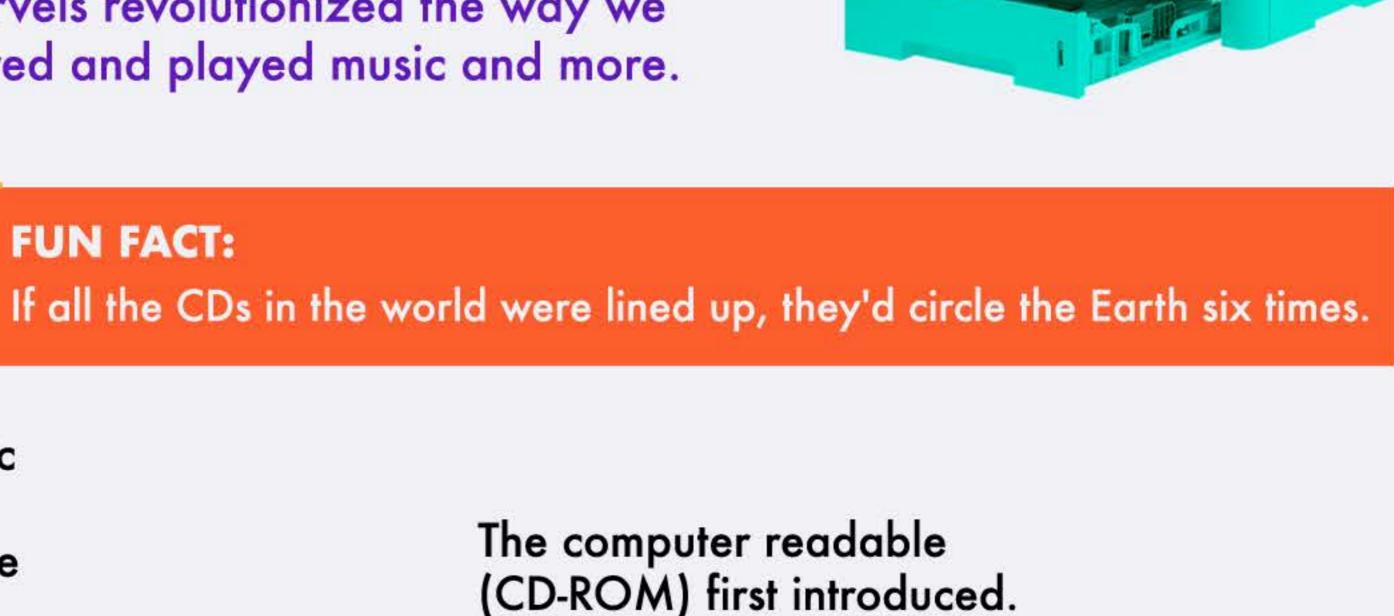
FUN FACT:

but for a time these mirrored

marvels revolutionized the way we

stored and played music and more.

The computer readable



MERRY

CHRISTMAS

1992

Simple, direct communication took a huge leap forward in the 90s with the invention of the text message. Today, text messages help protect our sensitive accounts with two-factor authentication, remind

:TEXT MESSAGING

1995 USB data rate speeds top 60MB per second, replacing CDs and DVDs; the USB flash drive, a rewritable plug-and-play storage device, is introduced. **:USB FLASHDRIVES** 2000s

us of upcoming appointments and let us communicate in real-time

The average user sends

we've come a long way.

4 texts per month.

without ever picking up the receiver. But they, like most new

inventions, were pretty rudimentary to start.

2007 Wireless USB evolves, using high-bandwidth radio technology to transmit data from devices like printers, cameras and video streaming.

INTELLIGENCE 2010 doesn't seem all that

Before the humble universal serial bus (USB)

gained popularity, colorful, confusing ports

clumsily connected everything from your mouse

accident-prone prongs to a one-port revolution,

and keyboard to your printers. From delicate,



long ago, but in terms of tech, we're light years beyond where we started - and a whole lot more intelligent.

2015 :NEURAL INTERFACING 2011

AUGUST 2020

with the iPhone 4s.

Apple unveils A.I. assistant Siri



If there was ever any doubt that the future

professional at the board game Go.

is now, this potential mind-machine meld puts it to rest once and for all.

presentation suggesting we may one day merge our

Elon Musk gives Neuralink

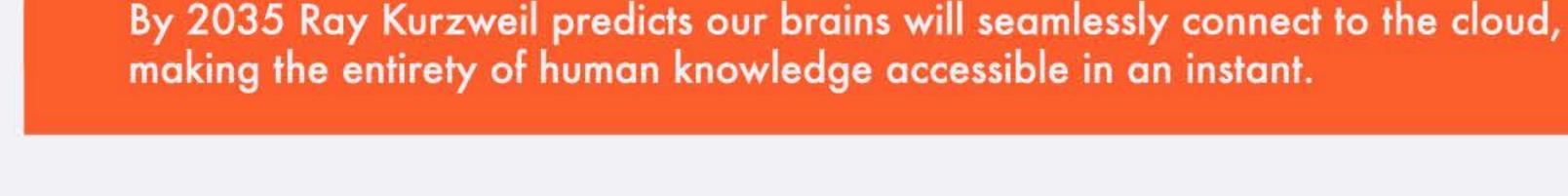
minds with computers. SEPTEMBER 2020

"NOT-TOO-DISTANT FUTURE"

cure Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and paralysis, release happy endorphins, enhance sleep and eliminate pain.

Neuro chemistry devices may be used to

US FDA gives Neuralink its Breakthrough Device Designation.



FUN FACT:

If self-driving cars and brain-computer interfaces are any indication, the numerous advancements of the last 100 years may pale in comparison to the next hundred. Still, it's worth reflecting on the founding technologies that got us here, so we can make a more intentional leap forward.