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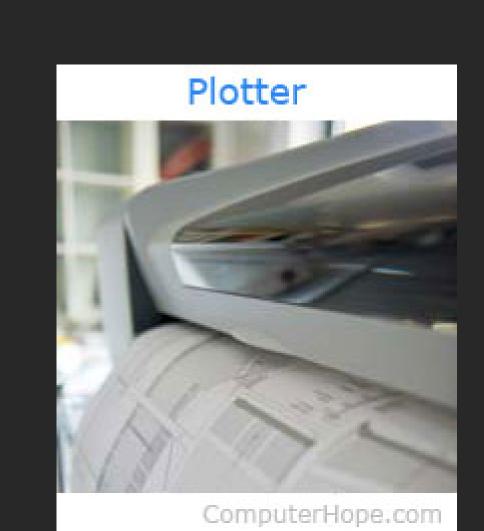
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### Plotter

Updated: 06/21/2017 by Computer Hope

A **plotter** is a computer hardware device much like a printer that is used for printing vector graphics. Instead of toner, plotters use a pen, pencil, marker, or another writing tool to draw multiple, continuous lines onto paper rather than a series of dots like a traditional printer. Though once widely used for computer-aided design, these devices have more or less been phased out by wide-format printers. Plotters produce a hard copy of schematics and other similar applications.



#### Advantages of plotters

- Plotters can work on very large sheets of paper while maintaining high resolution.
- They can print on a wide variety of flat materials including plywood, aluminum, sheet steel, cardboard, and plastic.
- Plotters allow the same pattern to be drawn thousands of times without any image degradation.

### Disadvantages of plotters

- Plotters are quite large compared to a traditional printer.
- Plotters are also much more expensive than a traditional printer.

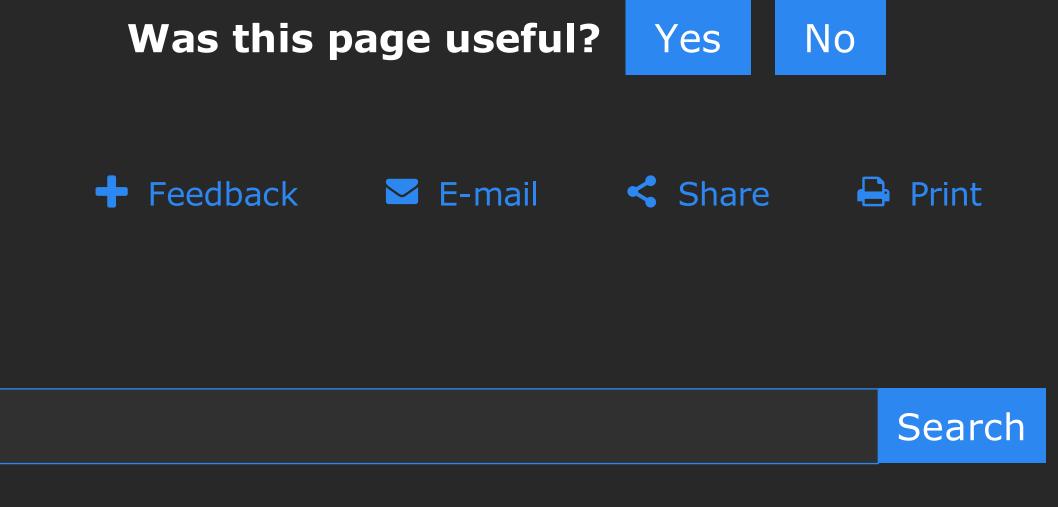
## When was the first plotter invented?

The first plotter was invented in 1953 by Remington-Rand. It was used in conjunction with the UNIVAC computer to created technical drawings.

## Related pages

Printer help and support.

Also see: Flatbed plotter, HPGL, Plot, Printer, Printing terms, Resolution



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