

The Industrial Revolution: Who Invented That?

The Industrial Revolution started in England in the late 1700s and quickly spread to the United States. Before the Industrial Revolution, most products were made by hand in homes or by local craftspeople. After the Industrial Revolution, many products were made using machines in factories. This shift in manufacturing was accompanied by a significant increase in new ideas and inventions, creating dramatic changes in work and home lives.

Use the word bank to select the inventor associated with each invention described.

George Eastman	Elias Howe	Thomas Edison	George Pullman	Josephine Cochrane
Eli Whitney	Robert Fulton	Samuel Morse	Joseph Henry	Alexander Graham Bell

DATE	INVENTOR	INVENTION	IMPACT
1793	Eli Whitney	Cotton gin	Increased the amount of cotton that could be harvested and textiles that could be manufactured
1807	Robert Fulton	Steamboat improvements	Transformed water transportation and trade by enabling ships to be larger and faster
1835	Joseph Henry	Electromechanical relay	Allowed electronic switches to open and close electrical circuits
1836	Samuel Morse	Morse code	Allowed people to send telegraphic messages using encoded characters
1846	Elias Howe	Transverse shuttle	Improved the efficiency of the sewing machine
1857	George Pullman	Railway sleeping car	Provided comfortable lodging for overnight railway transportation
1876	Alexander Graham Bell	Telephone	Allowed people to have conversations across far distances
1877	Thomas Edison	Phonograph	Enabled recording and reproduction of sound (became known as a record player)
1885	George Eastman	Photographic film	Allowed film to project an image (eventually used for photographs and movies)
1886	Josephine Cochrane	Commercial dishwasher	Allowed people to wash a large number of dishes simultaneously using a motorized device

Want to know more?

Choose one invention and write a news article reporting on the invention and the inventor. Do research to add details about the inventor's life and more detailed information about the invention's impact.