



Gutenberg Printing Press

Johannes Gutenberg was a German entrepreneur and inventor. He is considered to be the inventor of the printing press. Although there were many similar machines in Europe, Gutenberg's machine was the most technically advanced and significant. His invention helped start a new age of enlightenment in Europe by making books inexpensive and available to everyone.

Gutenberg's machine used what is called *movable type*. Each glyph was carved out of a piece of metal, and then they were all lined up in a box to create the words on one page. The glyphs in the box were inked and put into a "screw press". The box would get pressed down onto paper, and the inked metal glyphs would be pushed into the paper.



If Gutenberg's machine was not the first printing press why is it the most famous?

What did the printing press make possible that wasn't before?