

# Some Important Historical Names, Dates,\* and Events

## MATHEMATICAL

## GENERAL

### Early Beginnings (Before the Sixth Century B.C.)

B.C.	30,000	Notched wolf bone	B.C.	3300	Menes unites Egypt
	8000	Ishango bone		2600	Great Pyramid at Gizeh
	2500	Tablet tablets from Nippur		2100	Code of Hammurabi
	1900	Plimpton 322		1500	Phoenician alphabet
	1850	Moscow Papyrus		1200	Trojan War
	1650	Rhind Papyrus		700	Homer: <i>The Odyssey</i>

### Classical Period (Sixth Century B.C. to Fifth Century)

B.C.	622–547	Thales of Miletus	B.C.	558–486	Darius the Great
	585–500	Pythagoras of Samos		485–430	Herodotus
	ca. 470	Theodorus of Cyrene		480	Battle of Thermopylae
	460–380	Hippocrates of Chios		469–399	Socrates
	ca. 420	Hippias of Elis		431	Peloponnesian War
	408–355	Euxodus of Cnidos		388	Plato founds Academy
	323–285	Euclid		356–323	Alexander the Great
	287–212	Archimedes		ca. 370	Eudemus of Rhodes
	262–190	Apollonius of Perga		331	Foundation of Alexandria
	ca. 240	Nicomedes		213	Books burned in China
	ca. 230	Eratosthenes of Cyrene		212	Fall of Syracuse to Romans
A.D.	ca. 75	Heron of Alexandria		195	Rosetta Stone engraved
	ca. 100	Nicomachus of Gerasa		106–43	Cicero
	85–160	Claudius Ptolemy		44	Assassination of Caesar
	ca. 250	Diophantus		27	Beginning of Roman Empire
	ca. 260	Liu Hui	A.D.	100	Paper made in China
	ca. 300	Pappus of Alexandria		272–337	Constantine the Great
	365–395	Theon of Alexandria		286	Division of the Empire
	d. 415	Hypatia		324	Constantinople founded
	410–485	Proclus		455	Vandals sack Rome

\*Most dates before 600 B.C. are only approximate.

## Medieval and Renaissance Periods (Sixth Century to Sixteenth Century)

ca. 475–524	Boethius	636	Death of the Prophet Mohammed
ca. 476–550	Aryabhata	641	Library at Alexandria burned
ca. 625	Brahmagupta	732	Arabs defeated at Tours
ca. 826–901	Thabit-ibn-Korra	787	Start of the Viking Invasions
735–804	Alcuin of York	800	Charlemagne crowned Emperor
ca. 850–930	Abû Kâmil	ca. 1000	Leif Eriksson sails to America
ca. 1050–1130	Omar Khayyam	1066	Battle of Hastings
1114–1185	Bhaskara	1096–1099	The First Crusade
1114–1187	Gerard of Cremona	1200	University of Paris chartered
ca. 1120	Adelhard of Bath	1209	Cambridge University founded
ca. 1175–1250	Leonardo of Pisa	1215	Magna Carta signed
1436–1476	Regiomontanus	1258	Oxford University founded
1445–1514	Luca Pacioli	1271–1295	Travels of Marco Polo
1473–1543	Nicolas Copernicus	1293	Paper produced in Bologna
1494–1575	Francesco Maurolico	1337–1453	Hundred Years' War
1495–1552	Peter Apian	1348	Black Death in Europe
1500–1557	Niccolo Tartaglia	1440	Invention of Printing
1501–1576	Girolamo Cardan	1447	Founding of Vatican Library
1510–1558	Robert Recorde	1451	Death of Joan of Arc
1522–1565	Ludovico Ferrari	1453	Turks capture Constantinople
1526–1572	Raphael Bombelli	1472–1514	Leonardo da Vinci
1540–1603	François Viète	1478	<i>Treviso Arithmetic</i>
1546–1601	Tycho Brache	1492	Columbus reaches West Indies
1548–1626	Pietro Cataldi	1513	Balboa discovers the Pacific
1550–1617	John Napier	1517	Luther's 95 Theses
1564–1642	Galileo Galilei	1564–1616	William Shakespeare
1571–1630	Johannes Kepler	1588	Defeat of Spanish Armada

## Early Modern Period (Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries)

1588–1648	Marin Mersenne	1607	Jamestown founded
1591–1661	Gérard Desargues	1608	Telescope invented
1596–1650	René Descartes	1611	King James Bible
1601–1665	Pierre de Fermat	1618–1648	Thirty Years' War
1608–1647	Evangelista Torricelli	1619	Savilian Professorship (Oxford)
1616–1703	John Wallis	1620	Landing of Pilgrims
1623–1662	Blaise Pascal	1632–1723	Christopher Wren
1629–1695	Christiaan Huygens	1636	Harvard College founded
1630–1677	Isaac Barrow	1642–1649	English Civil War
1635–1703	Robert Hooke	1658	Death of Cromwell
1642–1727	Isaac Newton	1662	Royal Society of London
1646–1716	Gottfried Leibniz	1663	Lucasian Professorship (Cambridge)
1654–1705	James Bernoulli	1666	Académie des Sciences
1656–1742	Edmond Halley	1682	<i>Acta Eruditorum</i>
1661–1704	Marquis de l'Hospital	1683	Turks defeated at Vienna
1667–1733	Girolamo Saccheri	1687	Newton's <i>Principia</i>
1667–1748	John Bernoulli	1694–1778	Voltaire
1667–1754	Abraham DeMoivre	1712–1786	Frederick the Great
1685–1731	Brook Taylor	1737–1794	Edward Gibbon
1690–1764	Christian Goldbach	1751	Diderot's <i>Encyclopédie</i>
1707–1783	Leonhard Euler	1769	James Watt's steam engine
1717–1783	Jean le Rond d'Alembert	1769–1821	Napoleon Bonaparte
1718–1799	Maria Agnesi	1770–1827	Ludwig van Beethoven
1728–1777	Johann Lambert	1776–1783	American Revolution
1736–1813	Joseph Louis Lagrange	1789	Washington President
1749–1827	Pierre Simon Laplace	1789	French Revolution
1752–1833	Adrien-Marie Legendre	1798	Eli Whitney's cotton gin
1768–1830	Joseph Fourier	1798	Ecole Normale founded
1777–1855	Carl Friedrich Gauss	1798	Bonaparte in Egypt
1781–1848	Bernhard Bolzano	1799	Rosetta Stone

## Modern Period (Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries)

1789–1857	Augustine Louis Cauchy	1801	Ceres discovered
1793–1856	Nicolai Lobachevsky	1809–1882	Charles Darwin
1802–1829	Niels Henrik Abel	1812–1814	War of 1812
1802–1860	John Bolyai	1812–1870	Charles Dickens
1804–1851	Carl Gustav Jacobi	1818–1883	Karl Marx
1805–1865	William Rowan Hamilton	1820–1910	Florence Nightingale
1805–1859	P. G. Lejune Dirichlet	1823	Monroe Doctrine
1809–1882	Joseph Liouville	1825	Erie Canal opens
1810–1893	Ernst Eduard Kummer	1826	<i>Crelle's Journal</i>
1811–1832	Evariste Galois	1836	First telegraph
1814–1897	James Joseph Sylvester	1846	Discovery of Neptune
1815–1897	Karl Weierstrass	1858	Transatlantic cable
1821–1895	Arthur Cayley	1861–1865	American Civil War
1823–1891	Leopold Kronecker	1869	American transcontinental railway
1826–1866	Bernhard Riemann	1871	German empire
1831–1916	Richard Dedekind	1876	Bell's telephone
1845–1918	Georg Cantor	1878	<i>American Journal of Mathematics</i>
1848–1925	Gottlob Frege	1879	Edison's electric lamp
1849–1925	Felix Klein	1894	American Mathematical Society
1850–1891	Sonya Kovalesky	1895	Discovery of X-rays
1852–1939	Ferdinand Lindemann	1903	First powered air flight
1858–1932	Giuseppe Peano	1914	Completion of Panama Canal
1862–1943	David Hilbert	1914–1918	First World War
1868–1942	Felix Hausdorff	1917	Bolshevik Revolution
1872–1970	Bertrand Russell	1927	Lindberg's flight to Paris
1877–1947	Godfrey Harold Hardy	1929	The Great Depression
1882–1966	L. E. J. Brouwer	1933	Hitler becomes Chancellor
1882–1935	Amalie Emmy Noether	1939–1945	Second World War
1887–1920	Srinivasa Ramanujan	1963	Kennedy Assassinated
1903–1957	John von Neumann	1969	Landing on the moon
1906–1978	Kurt Gödel	1989	Berlin Wall dismantled