



Blaise Pascal

AD 1623 – AD 1662

French mathematician, physicist and religious philosopher. He constructed a mechanical calculator capable of addition and subtraction.



Joseph Marie Jacquard

AD 1752 – AD 1834

Jacquard invented a loom which wove patterned silk from instructions on punched cards.



Charles Babbage

AD 1792 – AD 1871

A “practical scientist”, he invented the difference engine and a general purpose analytical machine, forerunners of modern computers.



George Boole

AD 1815 – AD 1864

English mathematician and philosopher who invented Boolean logic, the basis of modern digital computer logic.



Herman Hollerith

AD 1860 – AD 1929

German-American statistician who developed mechanical tabulators using punched cards. He founded Tabulating Machine Company, which later merged with IBM.



Howard Hathaway Aiken

AD 1900 – AD 1973

As a graduate student at Harvard, proposed a machine to solve differential equations requiring extensive calculations. Harvard contracted with IBM to build the machine.



Alan Mathison Turing

AD 1912 – AD 1954

English mathematician and scientist who formalized the concepts of algorithms as programming methods; he helped build the Enigma machine.



ENIAC

AD 1943 – AD 1955

Electronic Numerical Integrator and Calculator - the first general purpose, electronic computer.



Stephen Wolfram

1959

Wolfram has proposed a controversial new theory which presents an empirical approach to observing computational systems, and assumes that nature is digital.



Ludwig von Bertalanffy

1901 – 1972

Formulated general systems theory which describes systems with interacting components, limiting applications of thermodynamics models to closed systems.



John von Neumann

AD 1903 – AD 1954

Hungarian-American who devised set theory and developed the Monte Carlo method. Worked on ENIAC.



Grace Murray Hopper

AD 1906 – AD 1992

American computer science and US Naval Officer, one of the first programmers of the Harvard Mark I computer. Wrote the first compiler for a computer, the A-0.



Kenneth E Boulding

1910 – 1993

An economist who viewed Earth as a planet of finite resources, Boulding developed theories based on ecosystems containing people and natural resources as well as the environment.



Anatol Rapoport

1911 – 2007

Rapoport invented game theory, a way of studying how contending components in a system interact.



Ervin László

1932

Proposed that information is the substance of the universe, which manifests itself in matter.



Donald Knuth

AD 1938 – AD 2010

American computer scientist who developed a method to analyze algorithms or methods of computation.



Fritjof Capra

1939

Author of the Tao of Physics, he encourages a holistic approach to traditionally analytical sciences like physics and chemistry.

