

Computing Pioneer: Katherine Johnson

What did she do?

Katherine Johnson was an American mathematician who worked for NASA in the 1950's and 1960's. She calculated the trajectories for rocket launches.

Her maths was so good that she was asked to check the maths of the launch computer before the Friendship 7 mission!

The flight was a success and represented a turning point for NASA.



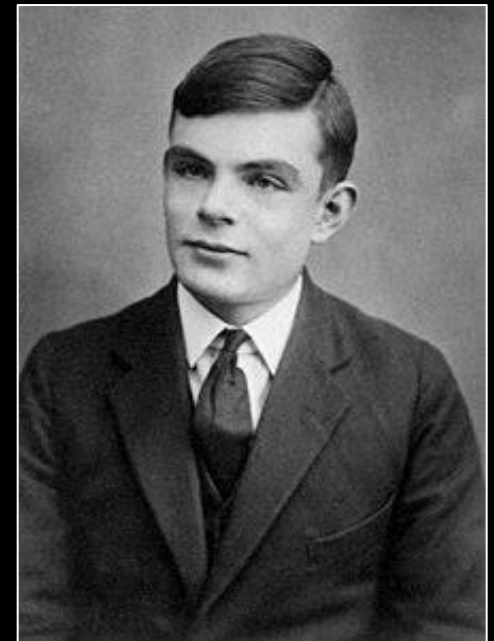
Computing Pioneer: Alan Turing

What did he do?

Alan Turing was a British mathematician who during World War 2, realised that computers could crack codes far faster than humans could.

Alan Turing led the team at Bletchley Park, a top-secret code cracking centre.

Winston Churchill later said that the work done by Turing's team "shortened the war by two years."



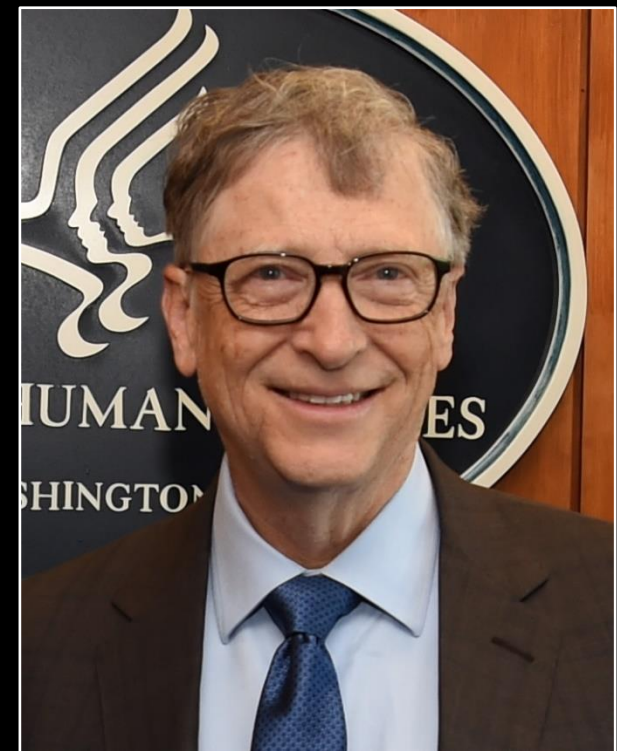
Computing Pioneer: Bill Gates

What did he do?

Bill Gates realised that information could be displayed clearly on computers.

With his childhood friend Paul Allen, he started a company called Microsoft, which creates software used on millions of computers.

Bill Gates gives a lot of money to charity to fight diseases like Polio.



Computing Pioneer: Shigeru Miyamoto

What did he do?

Shigeru Miyamoto created many of the world's most famous games, including Zelda and Mario.

He was inspired to create the 'Legend of Zelda' games by games he played in fields and caves when he was a boy in Japan.

He thought that some games should rely more on gameplay than high scores.



Computing Pioneer: Grace Hopper

What did she do?

Grace Hopper was a mathematician who applied to join the US Navy.

She was rejected because she was 34 years old, but she joined the Naval Reserves and developed one of the first computer languages called COBOL, which is still used today. COBOL was special because it used English words.



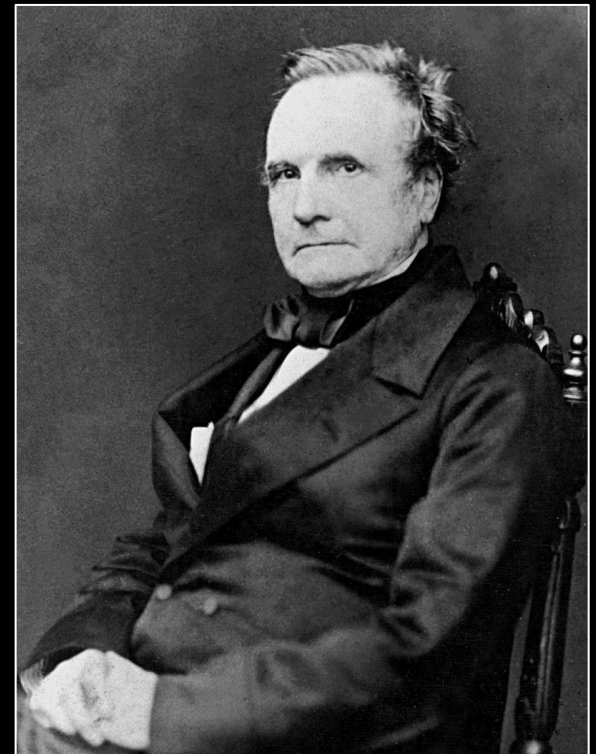
Computing Pioneer: Charles Babbage

What did he do?

Charles Babbage was an English mathematician, philosopher and inventor.

He is sometimes called the 'Father of Computer Science', as he built the first mechanical computer in 1837.

In 1991, Babbage's computer was tested for the first time and it worked perfectly!



Computing Pioneer: Ada Lovelace

What did she do?

Ada Lovelace was a mathematician and writer, born in 1815.

She realised that Charles Babbage's computer design could do more than mathematical calculations.

Ada Lovelace wrote the first computer algorithms and she is regarded as one of the first computer programmers.



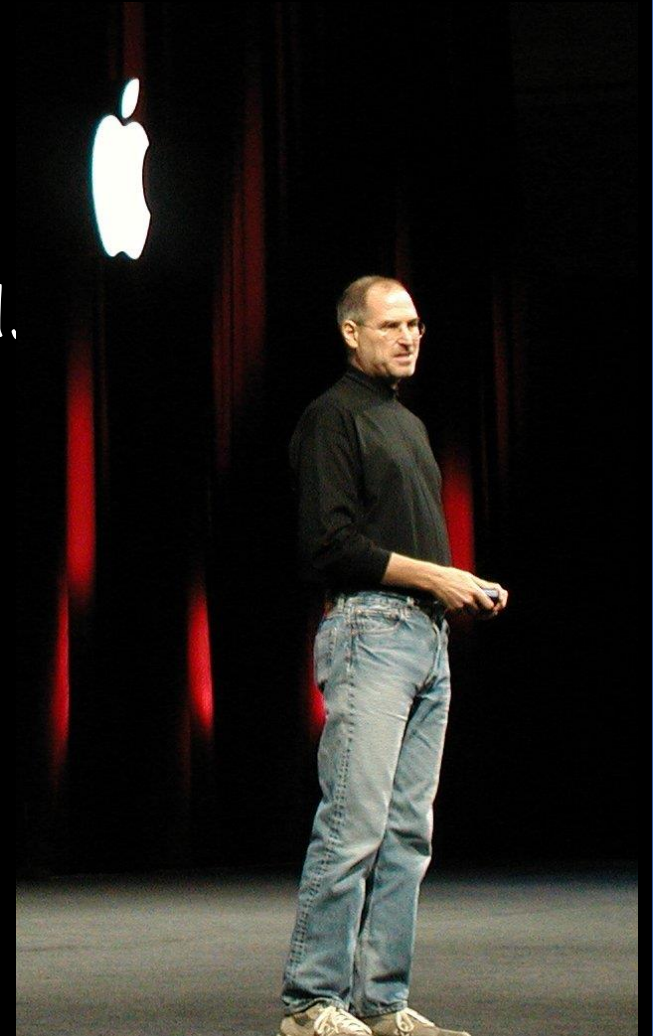
Computing Pioneer: Steve Jobs

What did he do?

Steve Jobs realised that computers could become smaller and more personal.

He invented some of the world's first personal computers, called 'Apple' computers.

Steve Jobs started a movement called 'Think differently' which created new devices like the iPad.

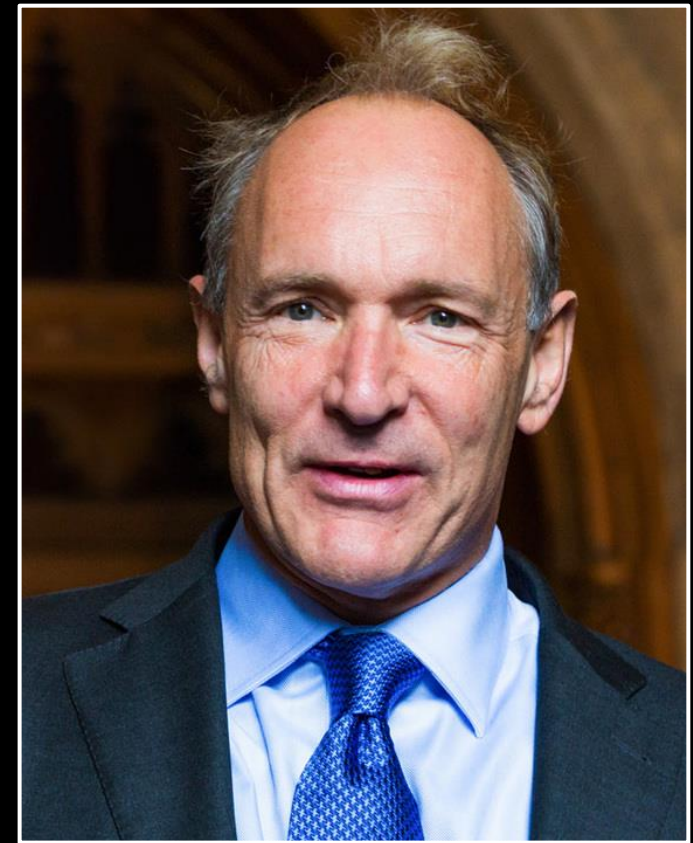


Computing Pioneer: Tim Berners-Lee

What did he do?

Tim Berners-Lee is an English inventor and engineer, who invented the World Wide Web.

Tim Berners-Lee realised that information could be made available to scientists using webpages. He created the first webpage for scientists at CERN in Switzerland.



Computing Pioneer: Robin Li

What did he do?

Robin Li founded the search engine 'Baidu', which is used by millions of people in China.

Robin Li came from a small town in China, where both of his parents worked in factories. He went to Beijing University to study computer science.

Baidu was the first search engine to use page ranking algorithms.



Computing Pioneers

Pioneer: One of the first people to
explore a new area

Computing Pioneer: Margaret Hamilton

What did she do?

Margaret Hamilton led the team of programmers that programmed computers for the Apollo missions.

In 1969, as Neil Armstrong approached the Moon, alarms went off inside the 'Eagle' lander, due to data overload.

Margaret Hamilton's programming let the computer choose the relevant data and prevented a mission abort.



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