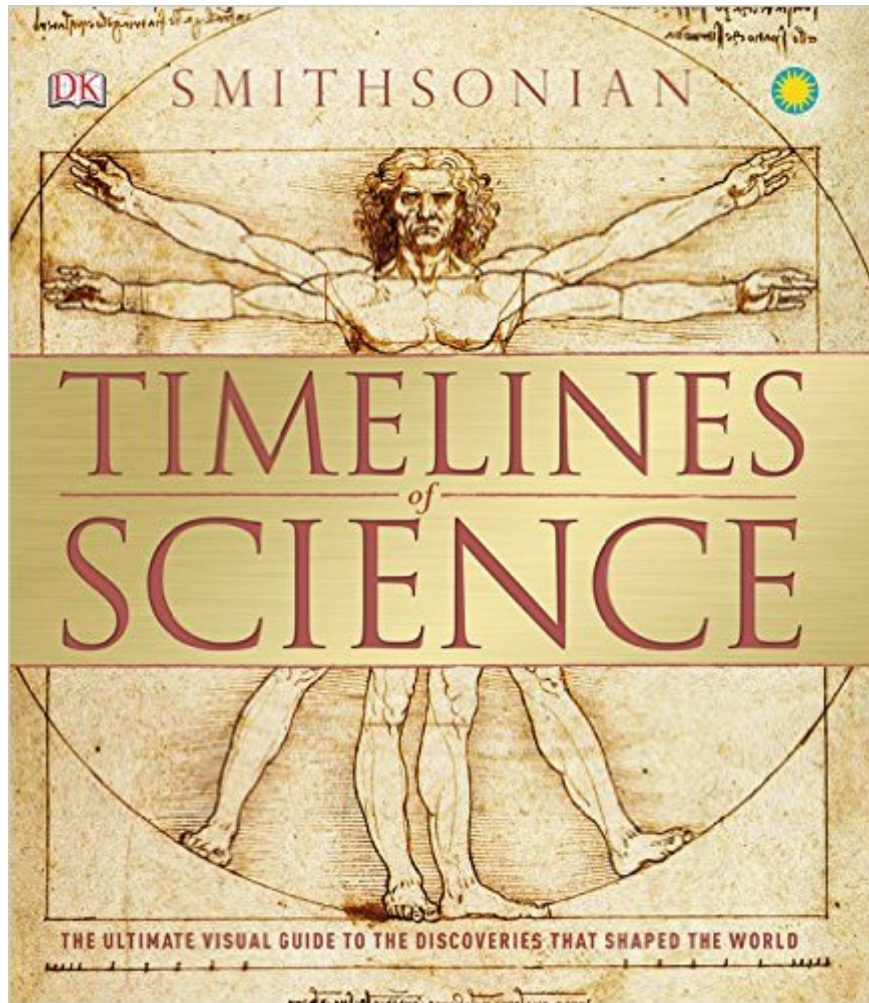


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# Timelines Of Science (Dk Smithsonian)



## Synopsis

Now available in paperback, *Timelines of Science* is an informative guide to the history of scientific discovery and technology. that follows the path chronologically, and explores everything from ancient Greek geometry to quantum physics. *Timelines of Science* highlights the theories, breakthroughs, and key thinkers that shaped the science as we know it today, from the discovery of penicillin to the advent of the Internet. Filled with striking visuals, including specially commissioned photography, arresting infographics, and illustrations that illuminate technological discovery, *Timelines of Science* includes major advances in all the sciences, including biology, chemistry, physics, and astronomy.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (57 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

Well, I guess I'll dissent too. This is a pretty, disorganized bunch of pictures with captions. Each page starts looking like every other page. One or two of the prettiest (not most important or significant, as if they've even mentioned why those labels would apply). The design team made this book, no one "wrote it" but someone must have been a fact checker on behalf of science, even if they weren't allowed to provide a framework for actually organizing the material into a referential whole. It's about at the level of a middle school science project. Lots of graphics trying to look meaningful, but anyone familiar with the subject matter will consider it science-related graffiti. I'm a student of science and science history, and to find a reference to Black Holes on the same page as the discovery of the solar system was a tad weird, since this is supposed to be a timeline that

demonstrates what was going on of importance around the world progressively through time. A Random assortment of factoids and photos with little content to express why, other than being scary, familiar, strange or pretty, they were even chosen for inclusion. And, as was well said in another review, "this presentation method leads to a jumble of unrelated topics. For example, a discussion of megalithic structures (Stonehenge) was immediately followed by a summary of how crude oil deposits were used to make reed baskets waterproof. A paragraph on the ENIAC computer and a proposed test for artificial intelligence was followed by a few sentences on a disastrous rabbit infestation in Australia. I felt like I was channel surfing: clicking from one television station to another, watching a program for a few seconds before moving onto the next.

"Timelines of Science" shows major discoveries from all over the world from prehistory to modern day. It covers 2.5 million years ago to 2013 CE and does include discoveries from all over the world. It's not very strong in ancient history, though. They use 24 pages to cover 2.5 million years ago to 75 CE, 14 pages to cover 75 CE to 100 CE, and 300 pages to cover 1000 CE to 2013 CE. So the focus is more on modern scientific discovery. They mainly covered discoveries in mathematics, medicine, biology, physics, chemistry, engineering, and astronomy, though it did cover other areas of technological and scientific advance as well. The main part of the book was the timeline, which is at the bottom of each page. This timeline did a good job of showing advances in different cultures relative to each other in time, which was interesting. Each page covered a section of the timeline. The upper part of each page contained related pictures and illustrations as well as brief descriptions of the advances noted on the part of the timeline shown on that page. While interesting, I didn't really get a sense of why some of these advances were significant and why others were left off. If these advances were steps forward in progression and built on each other, how did they build on each other? We're often not told that, only that a certain theory, idea, event, etc., happened at that time. There were also small sidebars that described various people that make significant contributions mentioned on the timeline. While the timeline of progress made up most of the timeline section of the book, there were some two-page spreads that focused on a certain technology or idea.

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