**Johannes Gutenberg (1398-1468)**



Johannes Guttenber invented the **printing press** - the most important **invention** in modern times.

Without boks and computers we wouldn't be able to learn, to **pass on** information, or to share **scientific discoveries**. **Prior to** (before) Gutenberg **invent**ed the printing press, making a book was a hard process. It wasn't that hard to write a letter to one person by hand, but to create thousands of books for many people to read was **nearly** impossible. Without the printing press we wouldn't have had the Scientific Revolution or the Rennaisance. Our world would be very different.

He was born in Mainz, Germany around the year 1398. He was the son of a **goldsmith**. We do not know much about his **childhood**. He **moved** a few times around Germany, but that's all we know **for sure**.

**Inventions**

Gutenberg took some existing technologies and some of his own inventions to invent the printing press in the year 1450. One **key idea** he **came up with** was **moveable type**. Rather than use **wooden blocks** to press **ink** onto paper, Gutenberg used moveable metal pieces to quickly create pages. He made innovations all the way through the printing process enabling pages to be printed faster. His presses could print thousands of pages per day vs. 40-50 with the old method. This was a dramatic improvement and **allow**ed books to be **acquire**d by the middle class and **spread knowledge** and **education** like never before. The invention of the printing press spread rapidly throughout Europe and soon thousands of books were being printed using printing presses.

Among his many contributions to printing are:

* The invention of a process for mass-producing movable type;
* The use of oil-based ink for printing books (farba na olejovom základe)
* Adjustable moulds (nastaviteľné formy)
* Mechanical movable type (mechanická pohyblivá sadzba)
* The use of a wooden printing press similar to the agricultural screw presses (skrutkový lis) of the period

Combination of these elements into a practical system allowed the mass production of printed books.

Gutenberg's method for making type is traditionally considered to have included a [type metal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Type_metal) alloy (sadzba zhotovená zo zliatiny kovov) and a [hand mould](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hand_mould#Printing) (ručná forma) for casting type (odlievanie sadzby). The alloy (zliatina) was a mixture of lead (olova), tin (cínu), and [antimony](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antimony)  (antimónu) that melted (tavila sa) at a relatively low temperature for faster and more economical casting (odlievanie), cast well (dobre sa odlieval), and created a durable type (a vytvoril trvácnu sadzbu)

**First printed books**

It is thought that the first printed **item** using the press was a German **poem**. Other prints included Latin Grammars and indulgences for the Catholic Church. His real fame came from producing the Gutenberg Bible. It was the first time a Bible was mass-produced and **available** for anyone outside the **church**. Bibles were **rare** and could **take up to** a year for a priest to transcribe. Gutenberg printed around 200 of these in a relatively short time.



The original Bible was sold for 30 florins. This was a lot of money back then for a commoner, but much, much cheaper than a hand-written version.

There are about 21 complete copies of Gutenberg Bible existing today. One copy is worth about 30 million dollars.

Vocabulary:

Printing press – tlačiarenský stroj invention – vynález

Pass on information – postúpiť, poslať ďalej informáciu

Share scientific discoveries – zdieľať, podeliť sa o vedecké objavy

Prior to – pred, skôr ako invent – vynájsť

Nearly – takmer Scientific Revolution – vedecko-technická revolúcia

Goldsmith – zlatník move – sťahovať sa

For sure – naisto, s istotou key idea –kľúčová/hlavná myšlienka (nápad)

come up with – prísť s čím, vymyslieť moveable type – pohyblivá sadzba

rather than – radšej ako, skôr ako wooden blocks – drevené bloky/kvádre

ink – farba, atrament metal pieces – kovové kusy

all the way through – úplne, v celom enable – umožniť

improvement – zlepšenie allow – dovoliť, povoliť

acquire – získať, dosiahnuť spread – šíriť

knowledge – vedomosti, znalosti education – vzdelanie

mass-produce – masovo vyrábať oil-based ink – farba/atrament na olejovom základe

adjustable – nastaviteľný mould – forma

wooden – drevený similar to – podobný ako

agricultural – poľnohospodársky screw press – skrutkový lis

mass production – masová výroba considered – považovaný

consider – považovať include – zahŕňať

type metal alloy – sadzba zhotovené zo zliatiny kovov alloy – zliatina

hand mould – ručná forma casting type – odlievanie sadzby

type – sadzba mixture – zmes

lead – olovo tin – cín

antimony – antimón melt – taviť sa

low temperature – nízka teplota durable – odolný, trvácny

item – položka, kus German – nemecký

poem – báseň indulgences – odpustky

Catholic Church – katolícka cirkev real – skutočný

Fame – sláva available – dostupný

Rare – vzácny, zriedkavý take up to a year – trvať až rok

Priest – kňaz transcribe – prepísať

Original – pôvodný commoner – bežný človek

Copy – výtlačok worth - hoden