



THE HISTORY OF THE PHONE

1876

First telephone invented by Alexander Graham Bell

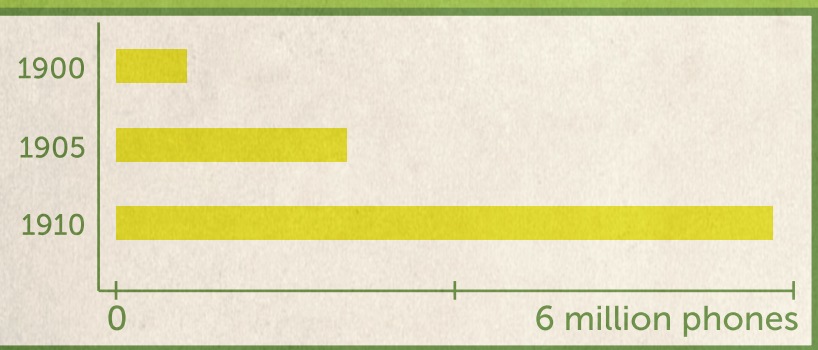


On Feb. 14, 1867 another inventor, Elisha Gray, and Alexander Graham Bell both filed a patent caveat for the telephone invention within hours of each other. Bell ended up getting a patent for his phone first.

1900-1910

In 1900, there were 600,000 phones in homes and Bell's telephone system. The numbers increased to 2.2 million in 1905, and 5.8 million in 1910.

Telephone transmission extended between major cities



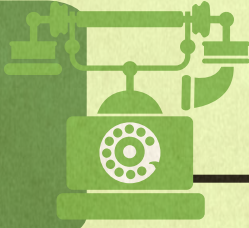
1915

Alexander Graham Bell made the first transcontinental phone call to Thomas Watson



1919

Bell system companies started to install switching system/rotary-dial telephones



1946

First commercial mobile phone installed

Motorola in conjunction with Bell systems operated the first commercial mobile telephone service.



1951

Direct long-distance calling without the need for an operator introduced

The first transatlantic call was placed on September 25 from the UK to Canada.

1956

First transatlantic telephone cable was installed from Scotland to Nova Scotia



Congress passed legislation for a single nationwide phone number that citizens can use for medical emergencies.



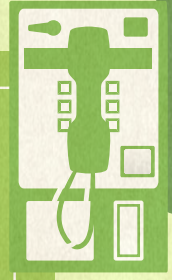
1963

Touch-tone telephone introduced in Pennsylvania by AT&T



1968

First 911 call made on Feb. 16, in Haleyville, AL



911 was chosen because it was easy to remember and was not already included in U.S. or Canadian area codes.

1973

First portable cell phone call made by Martin Cooper of Motorola to his rival at Bell Labs, Joel Engel



Up to this point all home phones were leased from AT&T.

1984

U.S. Government broke apart AT&T which allowed new designs and functions of the home phone



Mobile phones had been used in cars since mid-1940's, his was invented for purely portable use.

1993

First digital cellular network



1995

First internet phone software was released by VocalTec



VOIP (Voice Over Interactive Protocol) started to gain popularity, allowing voice interaction on PCs, mobile handholds, and other voice communication devices

1996

MotorolaStarTAC was first to display screens featured on a cell, and first clamshell cell phone



Benefon Esc! was the first instance of a GPS being integrated into a mobile phone.

1998

Nokia 9000 was the first Smartphone series



First Skype public beta version was released

2003

2007

iPhone released in June



Today, 35% of American adults own a smartphone.

2010

HD voice technology came out for VOIP phones