

# INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION TIMELINE

## 1750 A.D. - 1914 A.D.

The Industrial Revolution changed the course of world history and laid the foundations for modern society. It increased densely populated industrialized urban centers and created demand for packaged goods, organized infrastructure and made clothing, communication and transportation more affordable and accessible.



**CLIMATE, FLORA and FAUNA** - Rapid urbanization created overcrowded cities that suffered from pollution from coal and gas, inadequate sanitation (due to lack of established waste regulations), a lack of clean drinking water and unsafe working conditions.



**LANGUAGE, CULTURE and ART** - Increased material wealth and extended lifespans created a social change from the centuries-old class structure. A wide availability of cheap commodities created a consumer culture that marked the end of rural environmental knowledge, recycling and reuse as a common way of life.

**SOCIAL ORGANIZATION** - Banks and industrial financiers rose to new prominence during the period, as well as a factory system dependent on owners and managers. The industrial economy had a new set of rules and time schedules for the common laborer. The work environment moved indoors, and the pace of the work changed. Instead of driving a horse that pulled a plow or wagon, machines drove the worker. The seasons of the year were no longer relevant to the time spent at work.



**DIET and NUTRITION** - The traditional mode of farm production that had existed for centuries was abolished. Small, disconnected plots of land were combined into large commercial operations that implemented both new crops and the latest farming methods. Population growth exceeded food production and single crop production (which was subject to disease) caused a threat of famine.

**TECHNOLOGY** - Goods that had once been crafted by hand started to be produced in mass quantities by machines in factories. Britain's road network saw substantial improvements, and more than 2,000 miles of canals were in use across Britain by 1815. In the early 1800s, Richard Trevithick debuted a steam-powered locomotive, which transported freight (and passengers) between the industrial hubs. Steam-powered boats and ships carried goods along Britain's rivers and canals as well as across the Atlantic to North America.

Producing cloth became faster and required less time and human labor in the mid-18th century with innovations like the flying shuttle, spinning jenny, water frame and the power loom.

The demand for coal skyrocketed throughout the Industrial Revolution and beyond, as it would be needed to run not only the factories used to produce manufactured goods, but also the railroads and steamships used for transporting them. A new technique to smelt iron ore with coke (a material made by heating coal) instead of the traditional charcoal was cheaper and produced a higher-quality material.