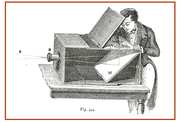
500 BCE–1000 CE
All around the world (China, Arabia, Greece) scholars witness the camera obscura effect.

1676
Portable **camera obscura** is introduced in Germany.

Artists used this tool to help them draw.



1839
First cameras sold are made in France.

Cameras are about as big and heavy as modern microwave ovens.

1854
George Eastman is born on July 12.

1861
Holmes invents the **stereoscopic viewer**.

This was a popular way to see pictures in 3-D.

1880s–1890s
Age of **detective cameras**—these popular cameras were hidden in watches, neckties, and even books.

1888
First **Kodak camera** introduced with the slogan "You press the button, we do the rest."

You could take 100 pictures on one "roll" of film.

1894
In Germany, Wilhelm Roentgen discovers X-rays.

1900
Kodak introduces **Brownie cameras**, named after popular storybook characters.

1929
Modern **flashbulb** is introduced.

1935
Newspapers can get photos electronically within hours.

1939
The **View-Master** is introduced at the New York World's Fair.

On a View-Master reel, two color slides are viewed at the same time, making the picture look 3-D.

1949
George Eastman House opens.

1954
About one-half of American homes have a TV.

1976
Canon introduces first camera with a microprocessor—cameras now use computer technology to take pictures.

1980
IBM sells first personal computer.

1980s
Disposable one-time-use cameras popular.

They were also called "throwaway" cameras.

1990
Photoshop 1.0 released—darkroom techniques can now be done on a computer.

1990s
Amateur **digital cameras** are introduced.

1992
More than 1 million Internet sites.

2000
Cell phones now come with a camera feature.

2000+
Nikon, Kodak, and Canon stop making most film cameras.

Discovery Room

GEORGE EASTMAN HOUSE

www.eastmanhouse.org/school/discoveryroom.php