1826
First photograph is made in France.

It takes Niépce eight hours to take the picture.

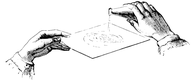
1839
First type of photograph, the daguerreotype, is announced.

1841
Talbot patents the calotype process in England.

1844
Pencil of Nature, the first book with photographs, is published.

1850s–1870s
The era of wet-plate collodion.

Photographers would pour a syrup-like liquid on glass or metal "plates" that were put in a camera to record a picture.



1855
Cartes-de-visite and stereocards are popular ways to use photographs.

1871
Ready-to-use dry plates introduced—a lot less stuff to carry!

1881
First photograph printed in a newspaper.

These cards were collected and exchanged.

1888
George Eastman, the father of popular photography, introduces the Kodak camera.

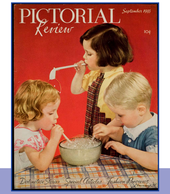
1900
Eastman Kodak Company sells the Brownie camera for $1.

Now almost anyone can take pictures!

1907
Autochrome, an early color process, is introduced.

1920s–1930s
Artists and scientists continue to experiment with different ways to make photographs.

1930s
Color photography becomes widely used.



1947
Polaroid announces "instant pictures."

With the one-step process, you could see your picture in just one minute.

1960
First hologram (3-D image made with lasers).

1968
Famous view of Earth rising over the moon—the photo was taken during the Apollo 8 mission.

1990s
Age of digital photography begins.

2000+
Printing optional!

Photographs are now taken with cell phones as well as cameras, and seen on computers as well as in albums.

2004
Flickr, one of the largest photo-sharing websites, is launched—it will go on to host more than 2 billion images.

Discovery Room

GEORGE EASTMAN HOUSE