



Mobile Phones

Mobile phones were invented in 1973. They were invented by Marty Cooper. Marty was an American engineer.

R: What year were mobile phones invented?

R: Where did Marty Cooper live?

Marty got the idea while watching TV. The TV show was set in the future. The characters were on a spaceship. They talked into something they held in their hand. Nothing like that existed. Marty thought people would like it. He started trying to make one.

E: How did Marty think of the idea for the mobile phone?

The first phone was called DynaTac. It was as big as a shoebox. It was very heavy. It would only stay charged for 35 minutes. It didn't have a screen. But it didn't need one. Mobile phones were just for calls. There were no texts. No games. No cameras. No internet!

I: What differences are there between the DynaTac and new phones?

Marty worked to improve the phone. He worked with a team. They wanted to make it better. They created 5 new different phones. They made them smaller and lighter. They were still very big. They were size of a brick and much bigger than we have now.

By 1983 the phone was ready for sale. It was called the DynaTac 8000X. It was made by Motorola. People were slow to buy it. It took a few years. Now lots of people have phones. There are more phones on the planet than people!

The smart phone was invented in 2007. The first was the Apple iPhone.

V: What does the word improve mean?

R: When did mobile phones start being sold?