

1886-89

Henrich Hertz discovers electromagnetic waves

1901-02

Marconi develops first wireless radio

WWI - military experimentation of transmitting images called "facsimile".

1907

Scientific American coined the term "television"

1919

Radio Corporation of America (RCA) formed

1922

RCA's first year selling radios (\$11,000,000)
Second year (\$50 million)

1927

Philo T. Farnsworth (father of television) develops an alternative broadcast transmission device
Gets patent approval in 1930

1929

First TV station (W2xbs) owned by NBC, transmits from the top of the Empire State Building in NYC

1948-53

VHF and UHF signals developed to limit band-width or spectrum (standards for color TV)

NTSC (National Television System Committee) formed at the behest of FCC to help establish the technical standards for the U.S. industry. (525 scanning lines and FM sound)

1950

NBC and Allen B. DuMont Studio complete first successful recording of color television

1951

Birth of videotape by Bing Brosby Enterprises

1953 - 1965

Different videotape formats were developed by companies in US (e.g. Ampex) and Japan (e.g. Sony)

1965

Sony produced the first portable reel-to-reel video recorder (Portapak)

1968

CBS introduces the first video cassette

1969

Sony introduces the first color video cassette recorder

1939

World's Fair in NYC, RCA's Hall of Television, Telecast of opening ceremony on April 30 - marked the start of RCA broadcast in NY, promoted as marking the *official birth of American television*

1940

Peter Goldmark (head of CBS Laboratories) invented a new color system for television (superior to RCA's system) Applied to FCC, which approved then reversed it's decision. RCA prevailed.

1941- 45 WWII

Both Sarnoff and Paley served in non-combatant roles.

1943

FCC ordered NBC to divest itself of one of its networks, which was sold for \$8 million to Edward S. Noble, who renamed it American Broadcasting Company (ABC)

1946

10,000 TV sets sold, 0.02% US households

1947

200,000 TV sets sold

1950

9% US households

Early 1950s is considered television's golden age

1953

Color telecast began

Production centered in NYC

1955

78% US households
Dumont Network closed

Talent from Broadway, programs based on the theater - TV plays

Hollywood makes links to television
Quiz show scandal
Audience becomes more working class

1959

32 western series during prime time

1960

Nixon/Kennedy presidential debates
Radio vs. TV versions

1970s

ABC and the youth demographic
Sarnoff and Paley retire

1980s

Advent of cable, satellite, home video markets