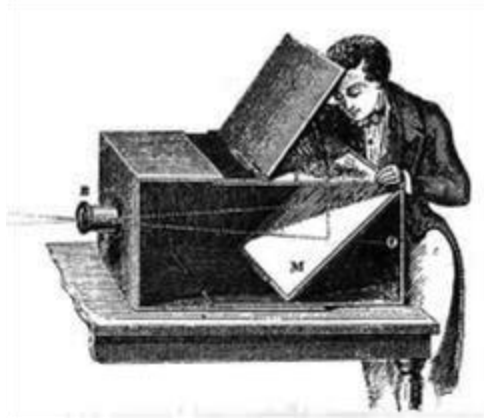


The History Behind Digital Photography.

Why we still call it digital photography is a mystery. Since the inception of digital photography in the mid twentieth century, it has dwarfed traditional photography in popularity with both artists and the general public.

Sir John Herschel invented the term photography in 1839. The word is derived from the Greek words for light (φωςphos) and writing or to write (γραφοςgraphos). As with many contemporary technical advances there are many people who contributed to the development of photography. In the seventeenth century **Robert Boyle** reported that silver chloride turned dark under exposure, but he appeared to believe that it was caused by exposure to the air, rather than to light.



[Thomas Wedgwood](#) (1771 –1805) conducted experiments in which he successfully captured images, but his silhouettes could not survive, as there was no known method of making the image permanent.

The first successful picture was produced in 1826–27 by Joseph [Niépce](#), using material that hardened on exposure to light. *View from the Window at Le Gras* required an exposure of eight hours.



[Niépce](#) later became partners with [Louis Daguerre](#) who subsequently discovered a way of developing photographic plates, [Louis Daguerre](#) process greatly reduced the exposure time from eight hours down to half an hour. He also discovered that an image could be made permanent by immersing it in salt.

After many advances in film photography, digital images emerged. In 1951, the first [video tape recorder](#) (VTR) captured live images from television cameras by converting the

information into electrical impulses (digital) and saving the information onto magnetic tape.

In 1981, Sony released the Sony Mavica electronic still camera, the camera, which was the first commercial electronic camera. Images were recorded onto a mini disc and then put into a video reader that was connected to a television monitor or color printer. This early Mavica is considered a video camera, which took still frames.

Since the mid-1970s, Kodak has invented several solid-state image sensors that "converted light to digital pictures" for professional and home consumer use. In 1986, Kodak scientists invented the world's first megapixel sensor, capable of recording 1.4 million pixels that could produce a 5 x 7 inch digital photo-quality print.

Digital cameras are available in point-and-shoot and digital single lens reflex (DSLR) models. Point-and-shoot cameras: These cameras are small, inexpensive, and easy to use because they contain fixed lenses and a built-in flash. DSLR cameras: have optical viewfinders, removable lenses, external flashes, and the ability to focus and to adjust exposure manually when needed. DSLR cameras tend to be more complicated and expensive than point-and-shoot models.

For information about:

digital cameras and **photo quality** based upon features such as megapixels, sensors, and zoom:

www.crutchfield.com

the **history of photography**

photography.nationalgeographic.com

photo.net

notable photographers:

www.masters-of-photography.com

www.digital-photography-school.com