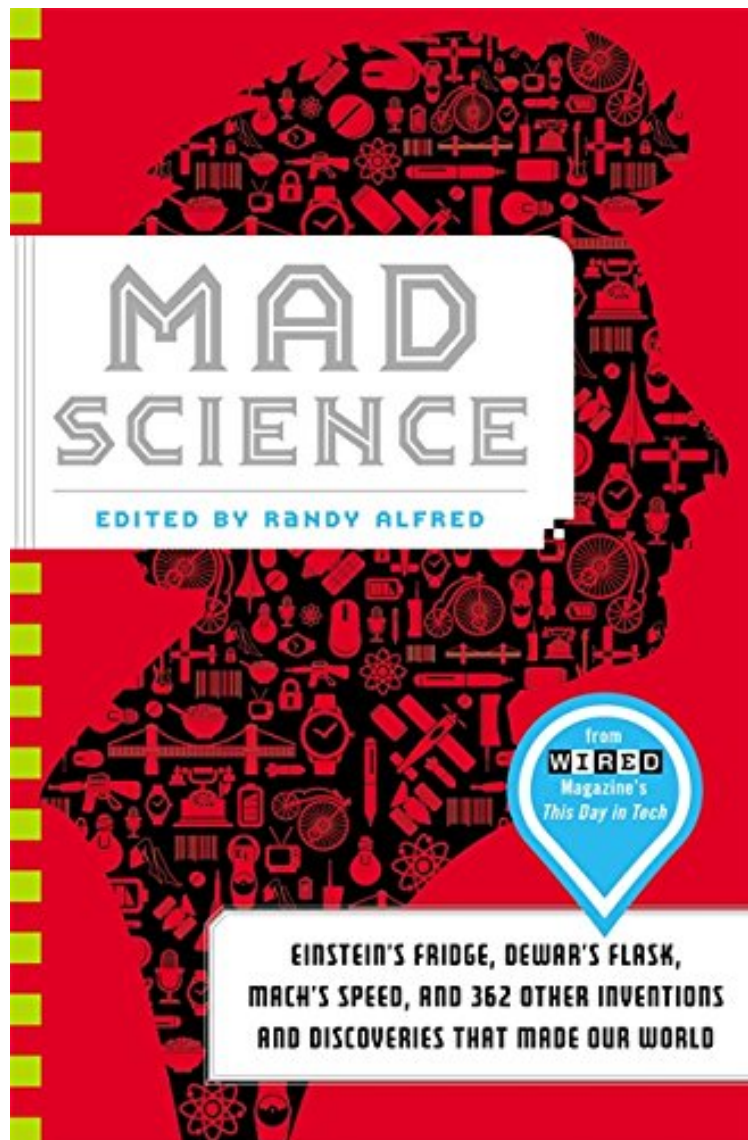


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Mad Science: Einstein's Fridge, Dewar's Flask, Mach's Speed, and 362 Other Inventions and Discoveries that Made Our World

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From Hachette Book Group Usa : Mad Science: Einstein's Fridge, Dewar's Flask, Mach's Speed, and 362 Other Inventions and Discoveries that Made Our World before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mad Science: Einstein's Fridge, Dewar's Flask, Mach's Speed, and 362 Other Inventions and Discoveries that Made Our World:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Bite sized daily morsels of science
By Josquin
Byte sized bits of science by the day. Written with a light touch and a bit of humor (OK, tickle me Guglielmo - Marconi - is a bit over the top). Who knew that time zones were standardized because of the railroads? (yeah that's what they mean by railroad time). Did you know that the first gravity roller coaster designed for an amusement park opened almost 130 years ago? (in Coney Island). That the safety pin was invented to pay off a 15 dollar debt? Read Mad Science and you will have daily doses of science trivia to put down that insufferable know-it-all in the office and to dispense at cocktail parties. It's a delightful, entertaining read.
10 of 11 people found the following review helpful. It's true -- this book is fascinating and wonderful!
By Gerald
The first two reviewers have essentially said it all. This book is fascinating from cover to cover, and wonderful in all aspects -- the breezy, clear writing; the enjoyable illustrations; the supplemental info about other things that happened on that day/in that year. For me, the greatest impact was not from the individual stories, fascinating and wonderful though they are, but from the overall awareness that I am surrounded by things that I take for granted but which once didn't exist and had to be invented and produced by someone. As obvious as this awareness seems, it's something I can too easily forget. I feel like I'm much more aware and appreciative now than I was before I got this book. My thanks to Wired and Mr. Alfred.
3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Great find for the science and tech history fan
By Robert Allison
I've worked my way thru the first 1/3 of this little book, mostly while on the treadmill or bike at the gym. Makes my exercise time fly by. Lots of interesting facts and trivia about subjects most of us know at least "something" about. Good way to relax and still pick up some fun information.

365 days of inventions, discoveries, science, and technology, from the editors of Wired Magazine.
On January 30, Rubik applied for a patent on his cube (1975). On the next day, 17 years earlier, the first U.S. Satellite passed through the Van Allen radiation belt. On March 17, the airplane "black box" made its maiden voyage (1953). And what about today? Every day of the year has a rich scientific and technological heritage just waiting to be uncovered, and Wired's top-flight science-trivia book MAD SCIENCE collects them chronologically, from New Year's Day to year's end, showing just how entertaining, wonderful, bizarre, and relevant science can be.
In 2010, Wired's popular "This Day in Tech" blog peaked with more than 700,000 page views each month, and one story in 2008 drew more than a million unique viewers. This book will collect the most intriguing anecdotes from the blog's run--one for each day of the year--and publish them in a package that will instantly appeal to hardcore techies and curious laypeople alike.

From Booklist
Math whizzes will already have deduced from the book's subtitle that there are 365 inventions and discoveries represented here. That's no accident: the book is designed like a desktop calendar in which each page tells you something new. Such as January 3, 1957, was the debut of the battery-powered watch, after more than a decade of development. And, on April 10, 1849, the safety pin was patented (revolutionizing, among many other things, the way babies' diapers are changed). And, on October 31, 1951, pedestrian crossings were introduced in Britain (they call them zebra crossings due to their black-and-white stripes). Drawn from Wired magazine's blog This Day in Tech, this endlessly fascinating book is simply presented: each page contains a primary subject, a brief discussion of its history and importance, and one-sentence mentions of some other important things that happened on the same date. Its only drawback--though no drawback at all for libraries--is that, unlike a typical desktop calendar, you can't tear off one page when it's time to move on to the next. --David Pitt "Pure delight. Where else do baseball, birth control and postage stamps come together? Mad Science follows the thread of science and technology through the fabric of our everyday lives." -- Richard Hart, Next Step TV, Technology Journalist