

1880

The family moves to Munich.

1884

Lying in bed ill, aged about 5, Einstein is given a compass by his father. The way the compass needle always points in the same direction, attracted by a hidden force field, fascinates young Einstein. Around this time, he also begins to learn the violin. The family moves to Munich.

1894

Aged 15, Einstein drops out of school in Germany and decides to study alone to get a place at college in Switzerland.

JANUARY 1896

Einstein gives up his German citizenship. He sits the Zurich Polytechnic exam again and this time passes. He starts his studies in October.

1902

Einstein starts work at the Swiss Patent Office in Bern as a junior patent clerk, registering the ideas of inventors.

1901

Einstein becomes a Swiss citizen.

JANUARY 6TH 1903

Einstein marries Mileva Maric, a Serbian physics student, in Bern, Switzerland. Maric helped check many of Einstein's mathematical calculations.

1885

Einstein starts school. He was a very good student, regularly coming top of his class. He also was well ahead in maths. But he found the strict way many subjects were taught at the time difficult to take and he often annoyed his teachers by questioning them and seeming disrespectful.

1881

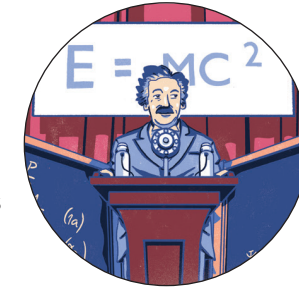
Einstein's sister Maria (known as Maja) is born.

14TH MARCH 1879

Albert Einstein is born in the city of Ulm in southern Germany, the first child of Hermann and Pauline Einstein.

1905

Einstein's "Miraculous Year". He publishes four ground-breaking papers that would change our understanding of time, space and the universe. And he developed the famous equation $E=mc^2$ that showed how the mass of an object was a measure of how much energy it contained.



1919

Einstein and Mileva divorce; Einstein marries his cousin Elsa in Berlin.

MAY 29TH

Scientists photograph a solar eclipse. Their images – finally developed in November – show that the Sun's gravity bends the light coming from stars directly behind it. This is proof of Einstein's general relativity theory. The discovery makes Einstein a global celebrity.

AUGUST 1932

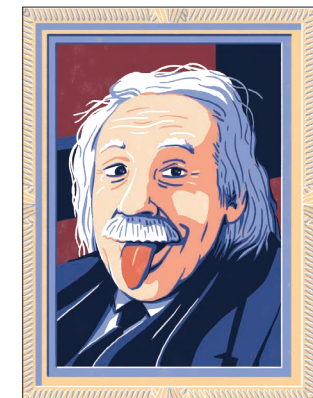
Einstein is appointed to the Institute of Advanced Study in Princeton, USA. He plans to spend half the year in Princeton and the other half in Berlin, but the Nazis come to power in Germany in January 1933. Einstein moves to the United States with his wife and his secretary Helen Dukas.

OCTOBER 1ST 1940

Einstein becomes an American citizen.

AUGUST 16TH 1955

Einstein dies in New Jersey, aged 76. His body is cremated and his papers turned over to the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.



DECEMBER 20TH 1936

Einstein's wife Elsa dies.

AUGUST 16TH 1945

The first atomic bomb is dropped on Hiroshima.

NOVEMBER 9TH 1922

Einstein wins the Nobel Prize in Physics 1921 for his contribution to physics and his discovery of the law of the photoelectric effect.

1915

Einstein publishes his *General Theory of Relativity*, which describes how gravity is a warping of space and time.

26TH OCTOBER 1895

Einstein fails the entrance exam for the Zurich Polytechnic, and instead goes to school in Aarau, Switzerland. He loves it. There he learns to ask questions and visualise ideas and thought experiments – skills that he would use for the rest of his life. Einstein wonders what would happen if you could run alongside a beam of light. What would you see? The question keeps him thinking for the next ten years.



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