

Fact Box

Renaissance means 'rebirth' or 'revival'

The Renaissance period was a time of relative political and economic stability.

It saw a revival of interest in the arts- painting, sculpture, architecture and music

The wealthy people of the Renaissance supported the arts by employing composers, writers, artists and poets to provide them with beautiful surroundings and entertainment.

Choirs were made up of men and boys. Women were not allowed to take part- boys' voices were thought to be more angelic and pleasing to God

Renaissance History

The Renaissance Period was from 1450- 1600. It was a time of great invention and is full of famous people.

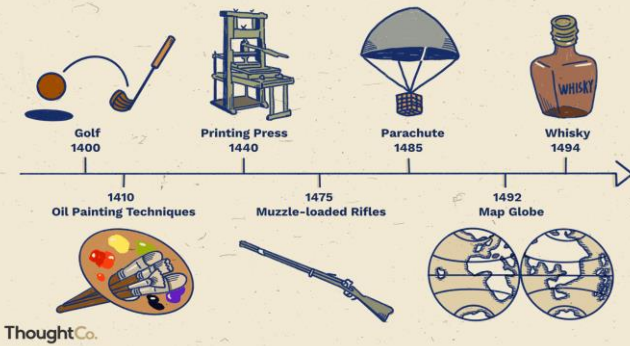
The Renaissance started in Florence, Italy and spread to other city-states in Italy. Part of the reason it began in Italy was because of the history of Rome and the Roman Empire.

Another reason it began in Italy was because Italy had become very wealthy, and the wealthy were willing to spend their money supporting artists and geniuses.

City-states played a big role in the rule of Italy at the time. They were often ruled by a powerful family.

Some important city-states included Florence, Milan, Venice, and Ferrara.

Timeline of 15th Century Inventions



- The term Renaissance Man refers to a person that is an expert and talented in many areas.
- The true geniuses of the Renaissance were great examples of this.
- Leonardo da Vinci was a master painter, sculptor, scientist, inventor, architect, engineer, and writer.
- Michelangelo was also a superb painter, sculptor, and architect.

Drone – 2 notes played continuously through a piece of music. Sounds like a bagpipe. The notes are a 5th apart, like a C & G or A & E.

Ostinato – means obstinate or persistent. A short rhythm or melody that is repeated.

Pavane – a European court dance, used for the entry of important guests. It was slow moving and dignified.

The **lute** is a plucked string instrument which originated from the Arabian 'Ud'. It was probably one of the most important instruments of the Renaissance period.



The **sackbutt** is an early trombone dating from 1490. The different pitched notes are produced by adjusting the length of the brass tube by using the slide.

The **crumhorn** is a woodwind instrument using a double reed mouthpiece. It was very popular in the Renaissance period, most frequently played in court ensembles and large town bands.



The **viol** is a six stringed instrument with frets like a guitar but is played with a bow. There were several sizes of viol usually played in an ensemble.

