

# MEDIEVAL INVENTIONS

A Chronological Evolution of Technology (500 - 1500 AD)

**c. 6th Century**  
**Heavy Plough**

Revolutionized agriculture in Northern Europe by allowing the turning of heavy, clay-rich soils.

**c. 700 AD**  
**Tidal Mills**

Utilized the rise and fall of tides to grind grain, marking an early mastery of renewable water power.

**c. 9th Century**  
**Horse Collar**

Shifted the weight from the horse's neck to its shoulders, significantly increasing hauling capacity.

**c. 11th Century**  
**Stained Glass**

Advances in metallurgy and glassmaking led to the iconic vibrant windows of Gothic cathedrals.

**c. 1280 AD**  
**Eyeglasses**

Invented in Italy, convex lenses helped correct presbyopia, extending the working lives of scholars.

**c. 1300 AD**  
**Mechanical Clock**

The weight-driven escapement mechanism allowed for standardized timekeeping independent of the sun.

**c. 1450 AD**  
**Printing Press**

Johannes Gutenberg's movable type revolutionized the dissemination of knowledge and literacy.