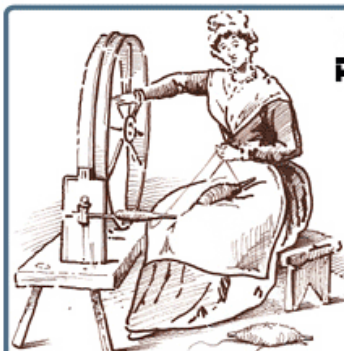


# 6 work-related BREAKTHROUGH INVENTIONS people once thought would never fall from POPULARITY.

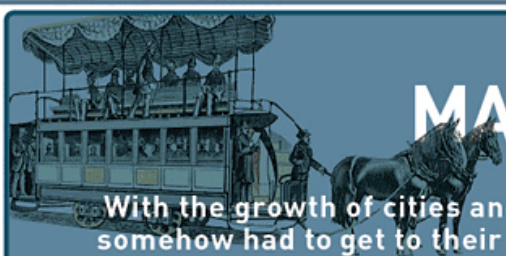


Are you still using old technology?



## The hand-cranked SPINNING WHEEL

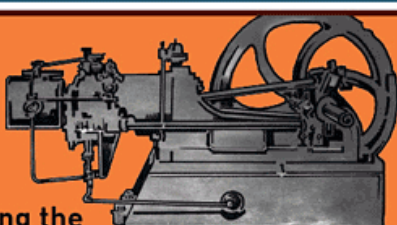
A marked improvement over previous methods of creating thread and yarn—it's what purportedly gave "homespun" a bad name—this wonder was displaced by more efficient machinery, although, ironically, some home hobbyists still use it.<sup>1,2</sup>



## Horse-Drawn MASS TRANSIT

With the growth of cities and factories, urban workers somehow had to get to their jobs. And nothing could be more efficient than this innovation. And, while some today pine for its rebirth due to its freedom from fossil fuels, just think of the environmental impact they created.<sup>4,5</sup>

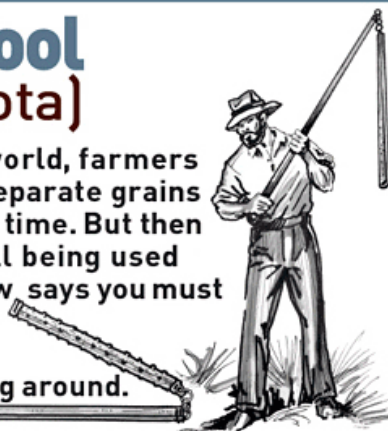
## Stationary STEAM Engines



Making their first appearance during the 1700s, stationary steam engines helped power the industrial revolution. But they fell out of use in the mid-1900s as more efficient power sources became more prevalent.<sup>3</sup>

## The Flail Farming Tool (except in Minnesota)

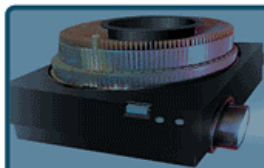
All but gone from the developed world, farmers used this little, two-piece tool to separate grains from their husks during harvesting time. But then combines came along. But it is still being used in Minnesota. Why? Because the law says you must use manual labor to harvest wild rice, making it the only time people might want to be seen flailing around.



## 8 inch & 5.25 inch Floppy Disks (& Their Drives)



They were revolutionary at the time, allowing you to easily carry and store pages of manuscript and other content. But, today, with the advent of flash drives, external hard drives, and cloud computing, they are all but gone, save for a few retro hipsters who continue to enjoy their data instability.<sup>6</sup>



## The Carousel SLIDE PROJECTOR

Remember the days before PowerPoint? When you wanted visuals, you either needed to make acetates or have expensive slides made of your visuals. And one had to be careful that the carousel didn't get dropped or slides were put in upside down. Well—thankfully—those days are gone, though you can still buy the projectors online.

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*Henry Ford used animal fat as lubricant  
when developing the Model T.*

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When Henry Ford built the Model T, metal-forming lubricant came in reconditioned whiskey barrels. While the make up of the barrels has changed, many are still using the same contents—even though better solutions now exist.



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### REFERENCE

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- <sup>2</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spinning\\_wheel](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spinning_wheel)
- <sup>3</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stationary\\_steam\\_engine](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stationary_steam_engine) Additional information: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corliss\\_steam\\_engine](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corliss_steam_engine)
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