

# The History of Civilization in Twelve Clocks: Timekeeping and Its Impact on Human Progress



In "History of Civilization in Twelve Clocks," David Landes explores the role of timekeeping in the development of human civilization. Landes argues

that timekeeping is not merely a way of measuring time, but also a way of organizing and controlling human behavior.



## About Time: A History of Civilization in Twelve Clocks

by David Rooney

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 25251 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
X-Ray : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 279 pages



Landes begins his book by examining the earliest known clocks, which were developed in ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia. These clocks were simple devices that used the movement of the sun or stars to measure time. However, they were surprisingly accurate, and they allowed people to track the time of day and night, as well as the seasons.

As civilizations developed, so did their clocks. The Greeks and Romans developed more sophisticated clocks that used water or sand to measure time. These clocks were more accurate than their predecessors, and they allowed people to measure time more precisely.

The development of mechanical clocks in the Middle Ages was a major breakthrough in timekeeping. Mechanical clocks were more accurate than any previous type of clock, and they could be used to measure time even

when there was no sunlight or starlight. This allowed people to work more efficiently and to coordinate their activities more precisely.

The invention of the atomic clock in the 20th century was another major breakthrough in timekeeping. Atomic clocks are the most accurate clocks ever invented, and they are used to calibrate other clocks and to measure the passage of time.

Landes argues that the development of timekeeping has had a profound impact on human civilization. Clocks have allowed people to organize their lives more efficiently, to coordinate their activities more precisely, and to measure the passage of time more accurately. As a result, clocks have played a major role in the development of science, technology, and human progress.

Landes's book is a fascinating and informative exploration of the role of timekeeping in human history. It is a must-read for anyone interested in the history of technology, the history of science, or the history of human progress.

**Here are some additional points that Landes discusses in his book:**

- \* The role of timekeeping in the development of agriculture, trade, and industry
- \* The impact of timekeeping on the development of cities and empires
- \* The relationship between timekeeping and the rise of science and technology
- \* The role of timekeeping in the development of modern society

Landes's book is a thought-provoking and insightful look at the role of timekeeping in human history. It is a must-read for anyone interested in the

history of technology, the history of science, or the history of human progress.

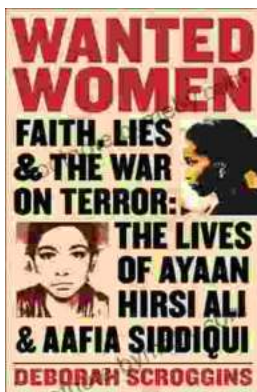


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