

Age and Tech Experience

As this chart shows, information technology changes so fast that the life experience of executives in their 40s and 50s is very different from the experience of younger folks. I originally started each vertical age line at 21, the year you start working, but a very smart editor suggested I bring it back to 1 year old since so many people have been plugged in more or less since birth.

Year	Technology Milestones	Age						Tech-Cultural Milestones
		55	45	40	35	30	25	
2009	Windows 7							ARRA Stimulus Spending
2008	Adobe AIR / Blu-Ray / Android / OpenID	54	44	39	34	29	24	Pres Obama / Wall Street Crash
2007	iPhone / Twitter / Kindle / Hulu / Vista / Gmail	53	43	38	33	28	23	Iraq Surge/ IPCC AGW / Health 2.0
2006	HDTV Crossover / Facebook / LinkedIn	52	42	37	32	27	22	US pop 300 mil
2005	Video iPod / Skype / Google Maps / YouTube	51	41	36	31	26	21	850 mil iTunes
2004	Phone Cams / Net Neutrality / Ubuntu / Web 2.0	50	40	35	30	25	20	DVD ripping / Prius hybrid
2003	DRM / DTV / Windows XP / MySQL	49	39	34	29	24	19	Iraq War / Weblogs / iTunes
2002		48	38	33	28	23	18	Human Genome
2001	Tech Crash	47	37	32	27	22	17	WTC Attack / iPod / Digital video
2000	MP3 players / Semantic Web	46	36	31	26	21	16	Reality TV / Pres Bush II
1999	Internet Boom / Y2K Frenzy / Windows 98 / TiVo	45	35	30	25	20	15	Napster
1998	Streaming media / Embryonic stem cells	44	34	29	24	19	14	HDTV
1997	DVD	43	33	28	23	18	13	Fuel cells / <i>Grand Theft Auto</i>
1996	Windows 95 / MSIE / Flash / JavaScript	42	32	27	22	17	12	Monica Lewinsky scandal
1995	Amazon.com / Real Audio / MSN / PHP	41	31	26	21	16	11	Ebay / Amazon.com
1994	Netscape / GPS / W3C / VRML	40	30	25	20	15	10	Yahoo!
1993	Pentium / MPEG-1 / CD-R	39	29	24	19	14	9	Leno & Letterman
1992	Windows 3.1 / Newton PDA / Linux	38	28	23	18	13	8	Pres Clinton
1991	1 million IP hosts / RAID disks / .JPEG	37	27	22	17	12	7	"Information Superhighway"
1990	Java / PhotoShop	36	26	21	16	11	6	SUVs / <i>Law & Order</i>
1989	100,000 IP hosts / Lotus Notes / .GIF	35	25	20	15	10	5	Tiananmen Square massacre
1988	10BaseT / IRC	34	24	19	14	9	4	Challenger crash / Pres Bush I
1987	10,000 IP hosts / VGA	33	23	18	13	8	3	Iran Contra
1986	Prodigy / Hypercard / Windows 1.0	32	22	17	12	7	2	Nintendo
1985	MS Excel / Intel 386	31	21	16	11	6	1	Cell phones / AOL
1984	Apple Macintosh / C++	30	20	15	10	5		"cyberspace"
1983	MS Mouse	29	19	14	9	4		Minivan / Final M*A*S*H episode
1982	Compaq / Sun / Novell	28	18	13	8	3		ATMs
1981	IBM PC / PC-DOS	27	17	12	7	2		Space Shuttle / MTV
1980	dbase II	26	16	11	6	1		Mt. St. Helens / Pres Reagan
1979	VisiCalc / First Comdex	25	15	10	5			CD Player / Digital Music
1978	WordStar / Xerox laser printer	24	14	9	4			The Source
1977	Apple II / TRS-80	23	13	8	3			
1976	CP/M / VAX	22	15	7	2			Pres Carter
1975	Microsoft founded / Telenet	21	14	6	1			Viet Nam withdrawal
1974	Intel 8080 / Zilog Z-80	20	10	5				Nixon Resigns
1973	Ethernet	19	9	4				
1972	HP Calculator	18	8	3				Atari Pong
1971	Microprocessor / Floppy Disk	17	7	2				
1970	PDP-11 / IBM 370	16	6	1				CompuServe
1969	UNIX	15	5					Moon Landing
1968	Data General Nova	14	4					Summer of Love
1967		13	3					
1966		12	2					
1965	PDP-8	11	1					
1964	IBM 360	10						Pres Johnson
1963		9						Kennedy Assassination
1962		8						SpaceWar! Computer Game
1961	IBM 1401	7						
1960	COBOL	6						Pres Kennedy

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