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1/18 The United States has always been a good place for inventors, mechanics and problem solvers. Countless innovative tools, equipment and materials were born and grown here in the U.S., we're very familiar with or improved products just a few i decided to celebrate you but i probably don't think about it twice. Want to see some more modern tools? See our story about the best new tools of 2018. 2/18 In 1910, Duncan Black and Alonzo Decker opened a small machine shop in Baltimore. They began to build machine-made machines for automatic sugar dippers, bottle caps and parts for other manufacturers. Sitting at Al Decker's kitchen table, the two men thought of a lighter and easier-to-use industrial drill. (A Colt automatic pistol lay on the table- Colt was a customer.) According to legend, they both looked at the gun and had a eureka moment. In 1917, the first 1/2-in equipped with a trigger and pistol grip that looked quite like a colt, patented for a portable electric drill. Factory workers loved the vehicle and often brought it to a house to use in their own home. Black & Decker saw an opportunity and introduced the world's first portable drill for consumers in 1946. Five years later, they sold their millionth drill. 3/ 18 Samuel Nesbitt Maze entered the timber business in 1848 and sold high quality cedar shingles. The problem is, the steel spikes of the time didn't last long until the shingles. Samuel's son Walter bought a nail machine used to make zinc nails. At first, they gave these rustproof nails to customers who bought the rest of the roofing materials from Maze Lumber. In the early 1900s, when the price of zinc skyrocketed, Maze developed a steel nail-dying system in molten zinc barrels. These ZINCLAD nails were even more popular among carpenters because they were tougher than zinc and still rust resistant. Today, Maze has the world's largest variety of special nails, and after 167 years, timber still works! 4/18 Tony Maglica was born in New York during the Great Depression. He and his mother moved back to his hometown of Croatia when he was a little boy. Tony fled the communist-ruled country in 1950 and returned to the United States. He started a machine shop and gained a solid reputation for producing high quality parts for the military and aerospace industries. In 1979, he introduced the Maglite flashlight made of aircraft aluminum. He marketed the flashlights to the police and firefighters. It appeared that the general public was also more willing to pay a premium for the Flashlights Cadillac. Mag Instruments has won several design awards over the years and now produces dozens of different products, each in the United States. 5/18 In 1886, George B DeArment, a blacksmith from Evansburg in Pennsylvania, began forging Farmers tools. A farmer one He wrinkles the horses' 100s and his shoes. DeArment went from town to town selling scissors from the back of his car. Eventually, his business began and he became known as champion bolt & clipper company. The company has added more vehicles to its line, including open-end switches. In 1904 he moved to a facility in Meadville, PA. In 1933 Chief Engineer Howard Manning developed the idea of multi-position, tongue and groove, slip-joint style pliers. They named this iconic vehicle Channellock and became so popular that they changed the company's name to better protect the valuable trademark. Channellock still owns and is run by the DeArment family, now the fifth generation. In addition to slip-joint pliers, Channellock produces more than 130 different sizes and types of hand tools sold worldwide. And the vast majority of the tools they sell are still made in Meadville, Pennsylvania! Of course they retired the wagon. 6/18 Back in the 1950s, light dimming switches had bulky commercial jobs that produced a lot of heat. Joel Spira, a physicist from New York, knew he could make a better one. He worked in a small lab in the empty bedroom of the apartment where he lived with his wife Ruth. In 1959, he succeeded in creating a solid state, rotary dimmer that used less energy, created less heat, and was small enough to fit in a standard electric box. Almost impressively, he was able to sell the product in a market dominated by giant manufacturers such as GE and Westinghouse. Joel and his wife incorporated Lutron in 1961, and the Company currently has more than 2,700 patents worldwide and produces more than 15,000 different products, most of them in the United States. 7/18 Stephen Foster Briggs developed a six-cylinder, two-loop engine as an engineering student at South Dakota State College. He couldn't wait to bring his bike to market, but he didn't have the resources. Briggs' basketball coach introduced him to Harold Stratton, a successful grain merchant, and a partnership was formed. Unfortunately, Briggs' engine cost a lot of money to manufacture. Briggs & Stratton was successful in making parts for the newly formed auto industry and even produced a small car called the Briggs & Stratton Flyer, which sold for less than \$150. Eventually the company focused on small gasoline engines that power lawn mowers, external power equipment and even some early washing machines. Briggs & Stratton is currently the world's largest manufacturer of air-cooled engines, producing more than 9 million engines each year in the United States. 8/18 In 1915, the American Saw Company was founded in Springfield, MA by John Swanson, Carl Ericson and Carl Davis. On this date, 10 operators begin producing hacksaw blades under the trade name LENOX. The blades initially had a unique packaging and were known as Knives in the Plaid Box. Today, LENOX manufacturers have a wide range of knife types and tools many made in America. LENOX blades have long been considered a gold standard. The 10-man team has over 900, and LENOX now make more than 34,000 miles of knives every year. Put all these knives together, and they'll get the world and then get a little wet! LENOX is currently part of the Stanley Black & Decker family of companies. In 9/1818, a telegraph lineman entered Mathias Klein's shop in downtown Chicago with a half of the side-cut pliers and asked Mr. Klein to impersonate him a new half. This half was so good that the lineman returned to find a replacement for the other half and the first Klein lineman's pliers were born. The Klein Company benefited from being one of the few forges to survive the Great Chicago Fire. Klein also grew up adding more than 100 kinds of pliers along with the electrical and telecommunications industries. But the persians of the original lineman were so popular that for generations electricians have been call their merciful Kleins. Klein Tools Inc. is still going strong and still owned and managed by members of the Klein family. 10/18 Eddie Velo had a problem with turkey, or rather with the mess he made in his stables. In 1956, Eddie asked Louis and Cyril Keller to make him a loader to help him clean his stables. The mechanical loaders available at the time were huge and cumbersome, so Kellers built a compact tricycle loader and tested it in Eddie's stables. In 1960, the more familiar four-wheeled M400 was introduced and sled loaders quickly went almost everywhere from poultry stables. It's called skating because the wheels don't rudder. Instead, the wheels on both sides turn at different speeds, causing sleathing. 11/18 Russell Gray thought there should be a better way to lubricate a car on a cold Minnesota winter day. Freezing temperatures have made hand-ingested grease balls almost impossible to use. So in 1926, he designed a grease gun that was powered by air pressure and sold it to service stations and others in the automotive industry. Gray Company Inc. quickly became a leader in the industrial liquid processing business. The company produced its first paint pump in 1948 and developed the airless sprayer in 1957. This tool revolutionized exterior painting and made Graco a name familiar to every pro painter. Today Graco makes equipment for a wide range of industries. Pump liquid products into cars, apply foam insulation to walls, and distribute composite reincarns to molds – even pump tomato sauce over pizzas! 12/18 Captain John Ames of West Bridgewater, MA, began rowing production in 1774-before this American Revolution! Shovels were in high demand in the young expanding country and the business was good. During the gold rush in California, the Ames shovels were so valuable that they were sometimes used as currency! President Lincoln personally asked Oakes Ames (the son of Captain Ames) to supply shovels for the Union case during the Civil War. Second During the war, Ames produced tank coating, shell casings and these familiar folding retrofit tools are 11 million. In 1928, Ames shovels proved priceless in Richard E. Byrd's trip to the South Pole. Now, 240 years later, you'll find Ames shovels everywhere that still have holes to dig. 13/ 18 In 2001, Mark Bergman's hand was tired of keeping a paint container, so he froze a coffee can with a duct tape handle. Handy Paint has become pail's prototype. The ingenuity is at work! 14/18 Tim Leatherman carried an old scout knife while traveling abroad. He used it for everything from slicing bread to fixing the unreliable car he was driving around in. The knife was handy, but he stopped wishing he had a pair of pliers, so when he came home he designed his first multi-tool. Tim cut pieces of cardboard to make patterns for his prototype in his garage. He shopped vehicles around potential manufacturers without success, so he decided to produce them himself. His first sale came from a mail order magazine. He had hoped to sell 4,000 Pocket Survival Tools in the first year but eventually manufactured 30,000 orders. Leatherman Vehicle Group was born. Currently Portland, OR makes more than a million vehicles every year. 15/18 In 1883, John Michael Kohler covered a large rectangular basin with an enama powder that he developed and heated to 1,700 degrees F. He marketed his product to farmers as water lak and pork scalper and regular consumer tub. The bathtub was a hit and Kohler Company was the first of thousands of bathroom products that would continue production. Today, Kohler Company headquarters is located in Kohler, WI, and has more than 50 manufacturing locations employing more than 30,000 people worldwide. One of america's oldest and largest private companies. 16/18 In 1986, Craig Sommerfeld wanted a way to attach facial frames to kitchen cabinet carcasses in the process of building his own home and without nailing the front. Being a tool and mold manufacturer by trade, he designed and built his own single-hole pocket hole jig. It was first made of Craig's Jig steel and aluminum, and worked so well that friends and colleagues encouraged him to build more. He changed his name to Kreg out of humility and began showing the tool at wooden shows. I saw the professional cabinet shop folks benefit and were the first to buy the tool, but in the end, a lot of us weekend fighters wanted a powerful and super easy way to join the wood. Today, Kreg Jig is synonymous with chopping pocket holes. 17/18 Many artisans filed a space laying their windows or caulked around in a bathtub with some sort of DAP product. But their great, great grandfather may have used products from the same company to seal jelly jars. In 1865, Robert Dicks began producing wax sealing at his carriage house in Dayton, OH. He merged with George Pontius under the name Dicks-Pontius Company. Eventually, Robert's son, John Dicks, saw an opportunity in home building and introduced putty and kalafat to the company's product line. After The Second World War, the Dicks-Pontius Company was preparing to take advantage of the housing boom. In 1957, the Dicks-Pontius Company merged with the Chicago-based Armstrong Company and was re-named Dicks-Armstrong-Pontius. 18/18 In 1953, The Rocket Chemical Company of San Diego set out to create a product that could prevent equipment rust in the aerospace industry. 40 try, came up with the WD-40 (Water Displacement, 40 attempts). It was first used by Convair to protect the outer skin of Atlas Missiles from rust and corrosion. In 1958, the company's founder Norm Larsen saw the opportunity to sell it to the public and introduced the retail version of the WD-40 on aerosol machines. The public loved the product and still does. The WD-40 can be found in four out of five locations in the United States, and the company currently produces more than 1 million WD-40s a week. First Release Date: June 27, 2019 2019

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