

# INCREDIBLE TECHNOLOGY CHANGING OUR LIVES

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## ABSTRACT

The development of technology has changed the lives of every human being who lives on this planet. However, you might not feel it at a glance because our lives have been transformed little by little. Here is a list of reasons that justify how the development of technology has changed our lives. Over the years, Technology has been responsible for creating amazing resource, which literally put all the information we need right at our fingertips. The advance of technology has made for some great discoveries, but at the same time has dramatically changed how we live our day today lives.

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## I. 2012

**Ultrabooks** – The last two years have been all about the tablet. Laptops, with their “untouchable” screens, have yet to match any tablet’s featherweight portability and zippy response times. However, by next year, ultraportable notebooks — Ultrabooks — will finally be available for under \$1000, bringing a complete computing experience into areas of life which, until now, have only been partially filled by smaller technologies such as tablets and smartphones. They weigh around three pounds, measure less than an inch thick, and the hard drives are flash-based, which means they’ll have no moving parts, delivering zippy-quick startups and load times.

**The paralyzed will walk.** But, perhaps not in the way that you’d imagine. Using a machine-brain interface, researchers are making it possible for otherwise paralyzed humans to control neuroprostheses — essentially mechanical limbs that respond to human thought — allowing them to walk and regain bodily control. The same systems are also being developed for the military, which one can only assume means this project won’t flounder due to a lack of funding.

## II. 2013

**The Rise of Electronic Paper** – Right now, e-paper is pretty much only used in e-readers like the Kindle, but it’s something researchers everywhere are eager to expand upon. Full-color video integration is the obvious next step, and as tablet prices fall, it’s likely newspapers will soon be fully eradicated from their current form. The good news: less deforestation, and more user control over your sources.

**4G will be the new standard** in cell phone networks. What this means: your phone will download data about as fast as your home computer can. While you've probably seen lots of 4G banter from the big cell providers, it's not very widely available in most phones. However, both Verizon and the EU intend to do away with 3G entirely by 2013, which will essentially bring broadband-level speeds to wireless devices on cell networks. It won't do away with standard internet providers, but it will bring "worldwide WiFi" capabilities to anyone with a 4G data plan.

**The Eye of Gaia, a billion-pixel telescope** will be sent into space this year to begin photographing and mapping the universe on a scale that was recently impossible. With the human eye, one can see several thousand stars on a clear night; Gaia will observe more than a billion over the course of its mission — about 1% of all the stars in the Milky Way. As well, it will look far beyond our own galaxy, even as far as the end of the (observable) universe.

### **III. 2014**

**A 1 Terabyte SD Memory Card** probably seems like an impossibly unnecessary technological investment. Many computers still don't come with that much memory, much less SD memory cards that fit in your digital camera. Yet thanks to Moore's Law we can expect that the 1TB SD card will become commonplace in 2014, and increasingly necessary given the much larger swaths of data and information that we're constantly exchanging every day (thanks to technologies like memristors and our increasing ever-connectedness). The only disruptive factor here could be the rise of cloud-computing, but as data and transfer speeds continue to rise, it's inevitable that we'll need a physical place to store our digital stuff.

**The first around-the-world flight by a solar-powered plane** will be accomplished by now, bringing truly clean energy to air transportation for the first time. Consumer models are still far down the road, but you don't need to let your imagination wander too far to figure out that this is definitely a game-changer. Consider this: it took humans quite a few millennia to figure out how to fly; and only a fraction of that time to do it with solar power.

**The world's most advanced polar icebreaker** is currently being developed as a part of the EU's scientific development goals and is scheduled to launch in 2014. As global average temperatures continue to climb, an understanding and diligence to the Polar Regions will be essential to monitoring the rapidly changing climates — and this icebreaker will be up to the task.

### **IV. 2015**

**The world's first zero-carbon, sustainable city** in the form of Masdar City will be initially completed just outside of Abu Dhabi. The city will derive power solely from solar and other renewable resources, offer homes to more than 50,000 people.

**Personal 3D Printing** is currently reserved for those with extremely large bank accounts or equally large understandings about 3D printing; but by 2015, printing in three dimensions (essentially personal

manufacturing) will become a common practice in the household and in schools. Current affordable solutions include do-it-yourself kits like Makerbot, but in four years it should look more like a compact version of the uPrint. Eventually, this technology could lead to technologies such as nanofabricators and matter replicators — but not for at least a few decades.

## **V. 2016**

**Space tourism will hit the mainstream.** Well, sorta. Right now it costs around \$20-30 million to blast off and chill at the International Space Station, or \$200,000 for a sub-orbital spaceflight from Virgin Galactic. But the market is growing faster than most realize: within five years, companies like Space Island, Galactic Suite, and Orbital Technologies may realize their company missions, with space tourism packages ranging from \$10,000 up-and-backs to \$1 million five-night stays in an orbiting hotel suite.

**The sunscreen pill** will hit the market, protecting the skin as well as the eyes from UV rays. By reverse-engineering the way coral reefs shield themselves from the sun, scientists are very optimistic about the possibility, much to the dismay of sunscreen producers everywhere.

**A Woolly Mammoth will be reborn** among other now-extinct animals in 2016, assuming all goes according to the current plans of Japan's Riken Center for Developmental Biology. If they can pull it off, expect long lines at Animal Kingdom.

## **VI. 2017**

**Portable laser pens that can seal wounds** – Imagine you're hiking fifty miles from the nearest human, and you slip, busting your knee wide open, gushing blood. Today, you might stand a chance of some serious blood loss — but in less than a decade you might be carrying a portable laser pen capable of sealing you back up Wolverine-style.

## **VII. 2018**

**Light Peak** technology, a method of super-high-data-transfer, will enable more than 100 Gigabytes per second — and eventually whole terabytes per second — within everyday consumer electronics. This enables the copying of entire hard drives in a matter of seconds, although by this time the standard hard drive is probably well over 2TB.

**Insect-sized robot spies** aren't far off from becoming a reality, with the military currently hard at work to bring Mission Impossible-sized tech to the espionage playground. Secret weapon: immune to bug spray.



### VIII. 2019

**The average PC has the power of the human brain.** According to Ray Kurzweil, who has a better grip on the future than probably anyone else, the Law of Accelerating Returns will usher in an exponentially greater amount of computing power than ever before

**Web 3.0** – What will it look like? Is it already here? It's always difficult to tell just where we stand in terms of technological chronology. But if we assume that Web 1.0 was based only upon hyperlinks, and Web 2.0 is based on the social, person-to-person sharing of links, then Web 3.0 uses a combination of socially-sourced information, curated by a highly refined, personalizable algorithm ("they" call it the Semantic Web). We're already in the midst of it, but it's still far from its full potential.

**Energy from a fusion reactor** has always seemed just out of reach. It's essentially the process of producing infinite energy from a tiny amount of resources, but it requires a machine that can contain a reaction that occurs at over 125,000,000 degrees. However, right now in southern France, the fusion reactor of the future is being built to power up by 2019, with estimates of full-scale fusion power available by 2030.

### IX. 2020

**Crash-proof cars** have been promised by Volvo, to be made possible by using radar, sonar, and driver alert systems. Considering automobile crashes kill over 30,000 people in the U.S. per year, this is definitely a welcome technology.

### X. 2021

So, what should we expect in 2021? Well, 10 years ago, what did you expect to see now? Did you expect the word "Friend" to become a verb? Did you expect your twelve-year-old brother to stay up texting until 2am? Did you expect 140-character messaging systems enabling widespread revolutions against decades-old dictatorial regimes?

The next 10 years will be an era of unprecedented connectivity; this much we know. It will build upon the social networks, both real and virtual, that we've all played a role in constructing, bringing ideas together that would have otherwise remained distant, unknown strangers. Without twitter and a steady drip of mainstream media, would we have ever so strongly felt the presence of the Arab Spring? What laughs, gasps, or loves, however fleeting, would have been lost if not for Chatroulette? Keeping in mind that as our connections grow wider and more intimate, so too will the frequency of our connectedness, and as such, your own understanding of just what kinds of relationships are possible will be stretched and revolutionized as much as any piece of hardware.

Truly, the biggest changes we'll face will not come in the form of any visible technology; the changes that matter most, as they always have, will occur in those places we know best but can never quite see: our own hearts and mind

## **XI. CONCLUSION**

We don't use the traditional methods of sharing information. All of us have our own accounts in social media networks and we simply use them to share content. In fact, the social media networks have given us the opportunity to share anything at any given time. We can even access our social media accounts with different devices whenever we want. The books have been replaced with e-readers, tablets and smartphones along with the development of technology. Therefore, we don't need to carry heavy books that can break our backs. The e-readers and tablets can also read out something for us. Therefore, we can even go through books while we are driving on the road. Last but not least, the technological development has changed the way we parent. In other words, parents in today's world have to teach digital etiquette to their little ones. They also have to warn the children about the dangers that they can face while browsing the Internet.

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