

Search...

AI STATS

All Market Data News

Amazon Echo & Alexa Stats

Google Home & Assistant Stats

Timeline History of Large Language Models

Voice Assistant Timeline

RESEARCH

AI Model That Ranks Speeches by Interest

U.S. Smart Speaker Consumer Adoption Report 2022

Smartphone Voice Assistant Consumer Adoption Report 2022

Healthcare Voice Assistant Consumer Adoption Report 2022

Voice Shopping Consumer Adoption Report 2021

In-Car Voice Assistant Report 2021

U.S. Smart Speaker Report 2021

UK Smart Speaker Report 2021

Germany Smart Speaker Report 2021

Voice Assistants as a Marketing Channel 2021

Voice UX Best Practices Ebook

PODCAST

TOPICS

AI

Synthetic Media

Generative AI

Deepfake

Virtual Humans / Beings

Metaverse

Devices

Automotive

Healthcare

VIDEOS

ALL POSTS

ABOUT

Join Voicebot on Discord

Mission

Editorial Team

Voicebot Sponsorships

Voicebot Events

SYNTHEDIA

Event Registration

The Newsletter



SEARCH...





AI STATS

All Market Data News

Amazon Echo & Alexa Stats

Google Home & Assistant Stats

Timeline History of Large Language Models

Voice Assistant Timeline

RESEARCH

AI Model That Ranks Speeches by Interest

U.S. Smart Speaker Consumer Adoption Report 2022

Smartphone Voice Assistant Consumer Adoption Report 2022

Healthcare Voice Assistant Consumer Adoption Report 2022

Voice Shopping Consumer Adoption Report 2021

In-Car Voice Assistant Report 2021

U.S. Smart Speaker Report 2021

UK Smart Speaker Report 2021

Germany Smart Speaker Report 2021

Voice Assistants as a Marketing Channel 2021

Voice UX Best Practices Ebook

ABOUT

Join Voicebot on Discord

Mission

Editorial Team

SYNTHEDIA

Event Registration

The Newsletter

PODCAST

TOPICS

AI

Synthetic Media

Generative AI

Deepfake

Virtual Humans / Beings

Metaverse

Devices

Automotive

Healthcare

VIDEOS

ALL POSTS

Voicebot Sponsorships

Voicebot Events

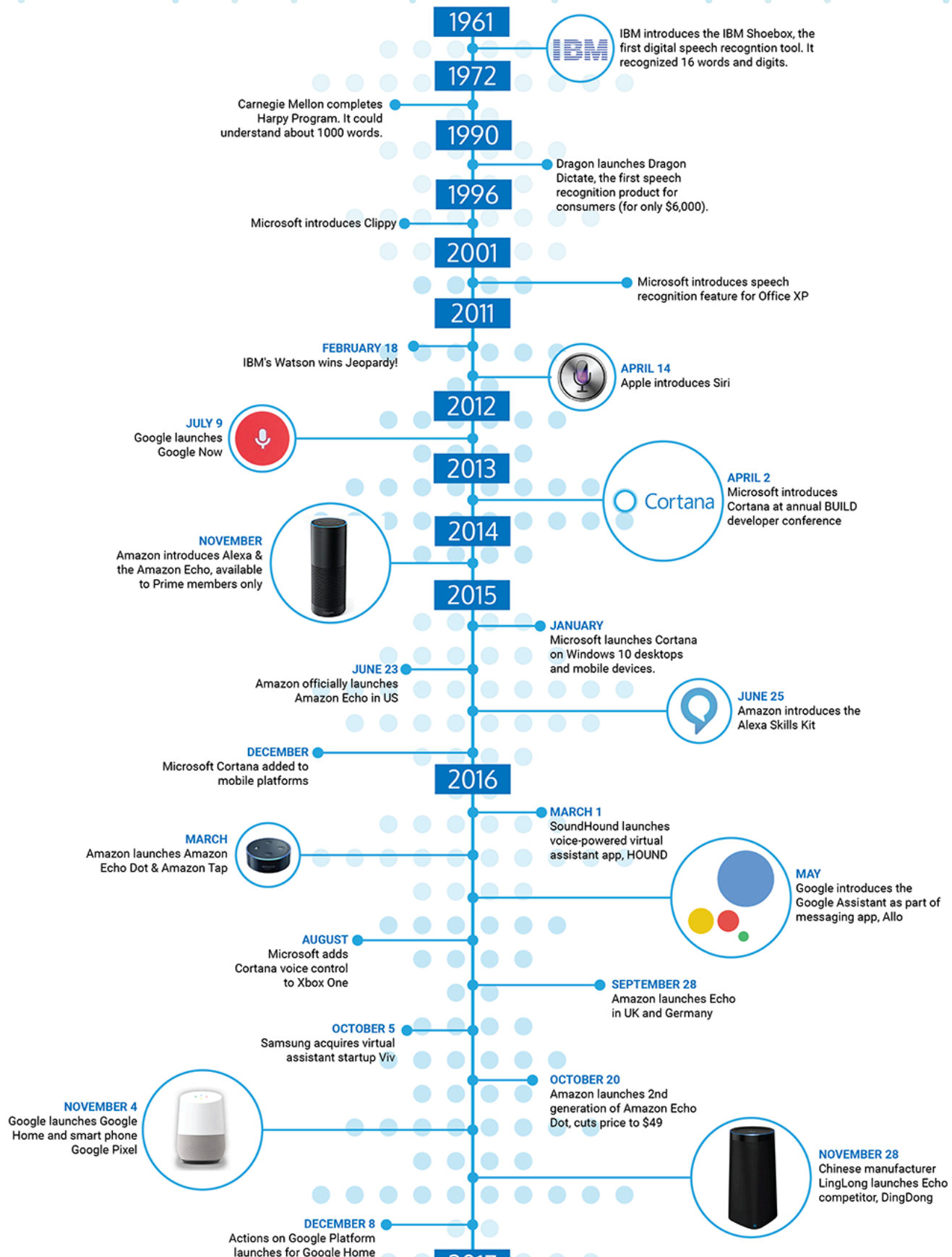
Voice Assistant Timeline: A Short History of the Voice Revolution

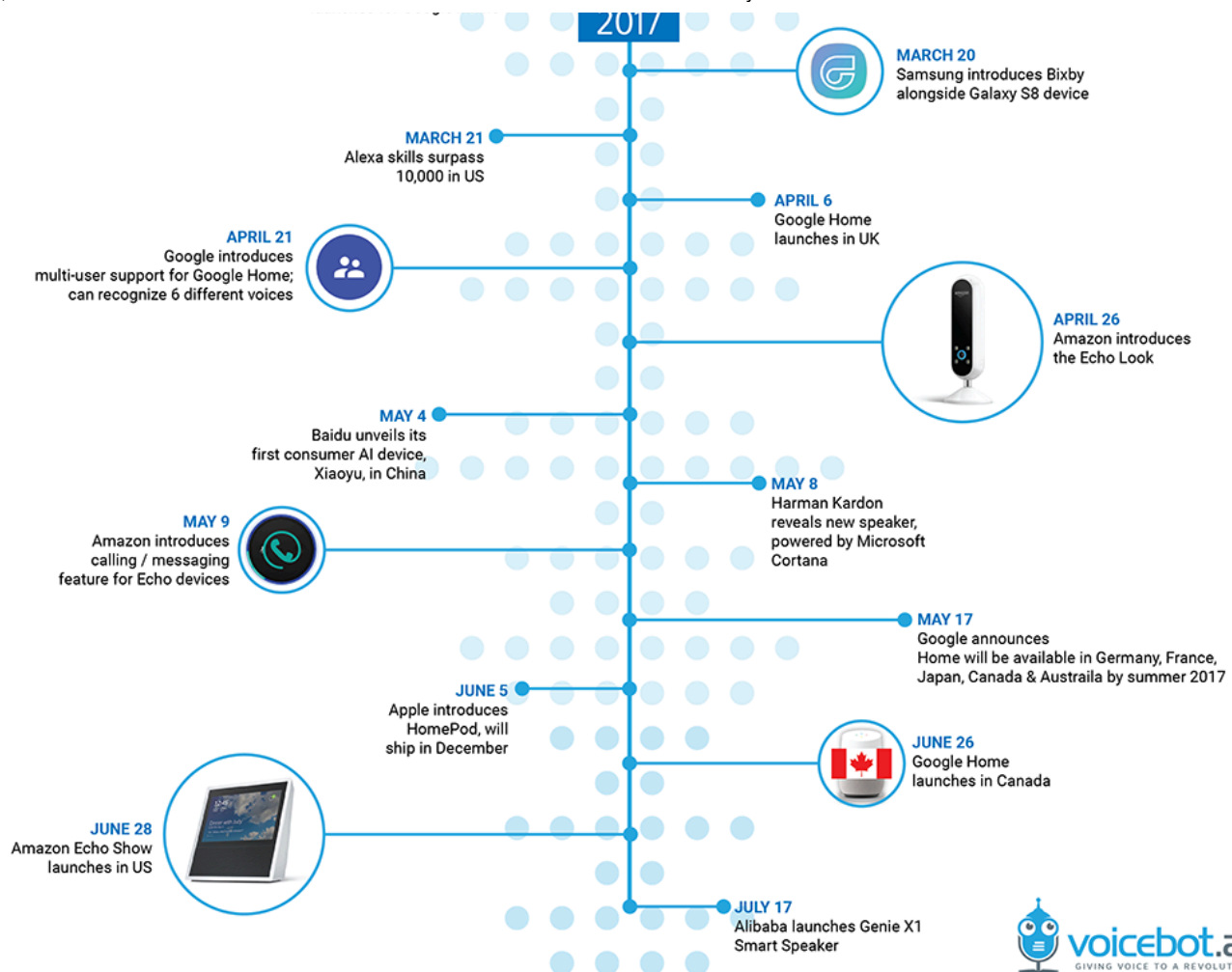
[AVA MUTCHLER](#) on July 14, 2017 at 8:00 am

We've updated this timeline through Q4 2020. Check it out [here](#).



A SHORT HISTORY OF THE VOICE REVOLUTION





VOICE ASSISTANT ORIGINS

It can be difficult to view the rise of voice assistants as a whole as more voice assistants and their smart speaker devices enter the market. Contrary to popular belief, voice assistants didn't start with the launch of Amazon Echo. We created a timeline of voice assistants for you to see how the voice revolution evolved since its beginnings in the early 1960s. When you look at the timeline, you can easily see four distinct eras of voice assistant history. It all began with what we'd like to call the Origin period. IBM became the first to introduce a voice assistant with its Shoebox device. While very primitive, it did understand 16 words and 9 digits.

PRE-MODERN NATURAL LANGUAGE ASSISTANTS

This laid the groundwork for the Pre-modern era, when voice and virtual assistants became available to consumers for the first time. Dragon's speech recognition software led the way with

competent voice recognition and transcription. Microsoft's text-based virtual assistant, [Clippy](#), showed us how natural language in text could be tracked, interpreted and used as a basis for interactive feedback. While Clippy was never popular, it did teach us some lessons about what not to do when it comes to building virtual assistants. Namely, that virtual assistants should only be heard when explicitly called for.

MODERN ERA TRANSITIONS TO THE SMART SPEAKER REVOLUTION

Enter Siri and the Modern Era of voice assistants. This is where smartphones and voice interaction collided. Siri was the first voice assistant to reach a wide audience and others, like Google Now and Microsoft's [Cortana](#) soon followed. Then in 2014, Amazon introduced the Alexa voice assistant and Echo smart speaker. As you can see, the number of milestones increases significantly after Alexa's launch, ushering in what we call the Smart Speaker revolution — and the birth of Voicebot.ai.

What's next? The smart speaker revolution will play out over several years but we expect that to morph into an ambient voice revolution where voice assistants aren't constrained by small, independent devices. Instead, voice assistants will be embedded in the environments we inhabit.

We hope you learn something new from the voice assistant timeline and it serves as a useful reference. If you think we're missing something significant, feel free to reach out to us on Twitter or Facebook. Click [here](#) to download a PDF of the timeline above.

Follow [@voicebotai](#)

SHARE THIS IMAGE ON YOUR SITE

```
</p><br /><br /><br /><br /><br />
<p><strong>Please include attribution to http://voicebot.ai with this
graphic.</strong></p><br /><br /><br /><br /><br />
<p><a href='http://voicebot.ai/2017/07/14/timeline-voice-assistants-
short-history-voice-revolution/'><img src='http://voicebot.ai/wp-
content/uploads/2017/07/voicebot-history-voice-assistants-01.png'
alt='voice-assistant-history' width='1000px' border='0' /></a></p><br />
<br /><br /><br /><br />
<p>
```

New Voicebot Report Says Nearly 20% of U.S. Adults Have Smart Speakers

U.S. Smart Speaker Total Audience Reach

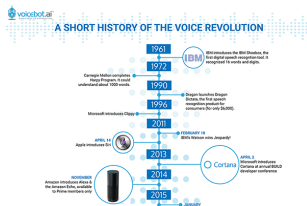


Voicebot collaborated with PullString and RAIN Agency to conduct an in-depth national survey of 1,057 U.S. adults to find out ... Continue reading



Voicebot.ai

A Timeline of Voice Assistant and Smart Speaker Technology From 1961 to Today



We first launched the Voice Assistant Timeline back in July of last year to illustrate how the voice revolution has ... Continue reading

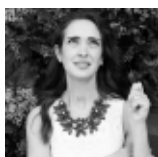


Voicebot.ai

CATEGORIES AMAZON ALEXA AMAZON ECHO APPLE HOMEPOD APPLE SIRI MARKET DATA
MICROSOFT SAMSUNG BIXBY VIRTUAL ASSISTANT
TAGGED FIRST VOICE ASSISTANT VOICE ASSISTANT BEGINNINGS VOICE ASSISTANT HISTORY
VOICE ASSISTANT TIMELINE



13



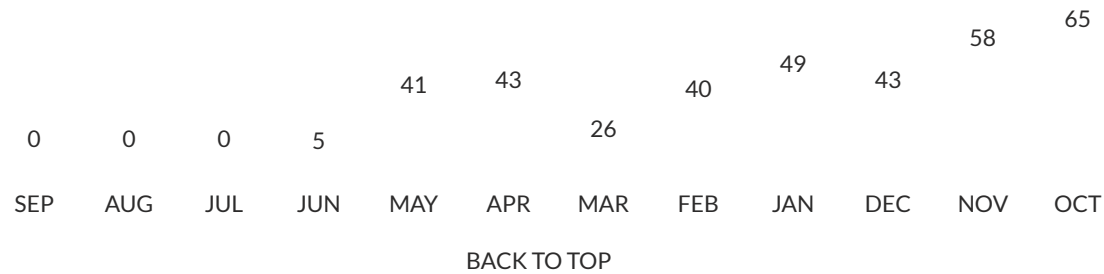
AVA MUTCHLER

[PREVIOUS ARTICLE](#)

WITLINGO LAUNCHES FACEBOOK ALEXA SKILL PROGRAM

[NEXT ARTICLE](#)

3.3 MILLION AMAZON ECHO SOLD ON PRIME DAY - MIDIA RESEARCH



Copyright © 2023 Voicebot.ai | All rights reserved.

[Terms of Service](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Subscribe](#) [Contact](#)

More than one instance of Sumo is attempting to start on this page. Please check that you are only loading Sumo once per page.