Record Nr. UNINA9910453878203321 Autore Essinger James <1957-> **Titolo** Jacquard's web [[electronic resource]]: how a hand-loom led to the birth of the information age / / by James Essinger Oxford,: Oxford University Press, 2007, c2004 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-19-280577-0 1-281-34654-3 0-19-151725-9 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (315 p.) Disciplina 004.09 004/.09 509 Soggetti Computing - History Calculators Jacquard knitting machines Information technology - History Electronic books. Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali First published: 2004. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references (p. 289-293) and index. Nota di contenuto Contents; List of illustrations; 1 The engraving that wasn't; 2 A better mousetrap; 3 The son of a master-weaver; 4 The Emperor's new clothes; 5 From weaving to computing; 6 The Difference Engine; 7 The Analytical Engine: 8 A guestion of faith and funding: 9 The lady who loved the Jacquard loom; 10 A crisis with the American Census; 11 The first Jacquard looms that wove information; 12 The birth of IBM; 13 The Thomas Watson phenomenon; 14 Howard Aiken dreams of a computer; 15 IBM and the Harvard Mark 1; 16 Weaving at the speed of light; 17 The future; Appendix 1: Charles Babbage's vindication Appendix 2: Ada Lovelace's letter to Charles Babbage, 14 August 1843Appendix 3: How the Jacquard loom worked; Acknowledgements;

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Jacquard's Web tells one of the greatest untold stories of science: how a hand loom invented in Napoleonic France led to the birth of the modern

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computer age. James Essinger, a master storyteller, traces the 200-year evolution of Jacquard's idea from the studios of 18th century weavers, through the Industrial Revolution to the development of hi-tech computers and the information age today. - ;Jacquard's Web is the story of some of the most ingenious inventors the world has ever known, a fascinating account of how a hand-loom invented in Napoleonic France led to the development of the modern in