# Diocles Encyclopedia Article

## Diocles

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# Diocles

**fl. second century B.C.**

Greek mathematician who, according to Arabic tradition, discovered the parabolic burning mirror. Diocles discusses the theory of spherical and parabolic burning mirrors in his only extant work, *On Burning Mirrors*. However, this treatise is primarily a collection of theorems in higher geometry. Among those mentioned are two solutions to the problem of doubling of the cube: (1) using the intersection of two parabolas, and (2) using a spherical curve known as the cissoid.