# Thomas Bell Encyclopedia Article

## Thomas Bell

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# Thomas Bell

English inventor who invented a better way of applying prints to fabric. Using a cylindrical roller, Bell showed it was possible to print designs on fabric rapidly, consistently, and with little labor. Not only did this make it possible for everyone to enjoy more colorful and attractive clothing, but it also presaged the use of similar technologies in the print industry (e.g., ditto machines, rotary printing presses, etc.).