

- 1930 - BAFFLE BALL (D. Gottlieb & Co.) First commercially successful pinball.
- 1931 - BALLY-HOO (Bally Mfg.) Bally's first pinball.
- 1932 - ADVANCE (Harry Williams) Tilt mechanism introduced.
- 1933 - CONTACT (Pacific Amusement) First kick-out hole, battery power, and first sound (bell).
- 1934 - First mechanical tilt mechanism.
- 1935 - ARISTOCRAT (Stoner Mfg. Co.) First backglass.
- 1936 - Alternating current pinballs made by multiple manufacturers.
- 1941 - Pinball production ceases as manufacturers convert to world war II production.
- 1946 - Pinball production resumes. Williams Mfg. founded by Harry Williams.
- 1947 - HUMPTY-DUMPTY (D. Gottlieb & Co.) First flippers.
- 1948 - Bally Mfg. introduces pop bumpers (thumper bumpers - jet bumpers).
- 1951 - D. Gottlieb & Co. introduces slingshots (kickers).
- 1954 - SUPER JUMBO (D. Gottlieb & Co.) First four player pinball machine.
- 1956 - BALLS-A-POPPIN' (Bally Mfg.) First multi-ball machine.
- 1957 - Wooden cabinet legs and rails replaced by steel.
- 1960 - FLIPPER (D. Gottlieb & Co.) First add-a-ball pinball machine and first "extra ball".
- 1960 - MAGIC CLOCK (Williams Mfg.) First moving target.
- 1962 - VAGABOND (Williams Mfg.) First drop targets.
- 1966 - SIX STICKS (Bally Mfg.) First six player pinball machine.
- 1966 - BAZAAR (Bally Mfg.) First game with zipper flippers.
- 1968 - Williams Mfg. standardizes larger flippers.
- 1971 - CHALLENGER (D. Gottlieb & Co.) First head-to-head 2 player pinball machine.
- 1972 - Pinball legalized in Los Angeles, California after 33 year absence.
- 1975 - DYN'O MITE (Allied Leisure) First hybrid solid state/electromechanical pinball game.
- 1975 - SPIRIT OF '76 (Mirco Games) First totally electronic solid state pinball machine.
- 1976 - Pinball legalized in New York and Chicago after 35 year absence.
- 1977 - ATARIANS (Atari) First wide-body pinball machine.
- 1977 - EIGHT BALL (Bally Mfg.) Sets post war record sales of 20,230 units.
- 1977: Allied Leisure releases "Take Five", first cocktail pinball machine
- 1979 - GORGAR (Williams Mfg.) First talking pinball machine.
- 1980 - FIREPOWER (Williams Mfg.) First solid state multi-ball pinball machine.
- 1980 - BLACK KNIGHT First two level playfield, first Magna-Save feature.
- 1980: Stern releases "Big Game", first game to have 7-digit (over 1,000,000 points) digital scoring.
- 1981 - HAUNTED HOUSE (D. Gottlieb & Co.) First three level pinball machine.
- 1981 - CATACOMB First pinball game with vertical and horizontal playfields.
- 1982 - CAVEMAN (D. Gottlieb & Co.) First combination video game/pinball machine.
- 1984 - D. Gottlieb & Co. pinball sold to Columbia Pictures, then Mylstar, then Premier Electronics.
- 1984 - LASER CUE - First machine to display four highest scores
- 1984 - LASER CUE - First machine with guaranteed time for an extra ball
- 1985 - First Pinball Expo.
- 1987 - LASER WAR (Data East) First stereo sound.
- 1988 - Bally Mfg. sold to Williams Electronics.
- 1989 - ROBO COP (Data East) First solid state flippers.
- 1992 - Alvin G. & Co. start pinball production.
- 1994 - Data East Pinball sold to Sega.
- 1994 - Alvin G. & Co. closes.
- 1995 - Capcom Pinball makes it's first pinball PINBALL MAGIC.
- 1996 - Premier Electronics closes, Capcom and Sega Pinball merge, Bally/Williams downsize.
- 1999 - Bally/Williams produces Pinball 2000 then ceases all pinball production.
- 1999 - Stern acquires Sega Pinball.
- 2001 - Stern w/ Pat Lawlor produces MONOPOLY.