1897 The Dow Chemical Company is incorporated.

1898 Dow’s first commercial-scale production of bleach begins.

1900 Midland Chemical Company merges into Dow.

1908 Dow’s agricultural chemicals division is established based on a spray for fruit trees.

1913 H.H. Dow announces the company will exit the bleach business. The focus shifts to the value of chlorine as a raw material.

1916 Dow markets calcium chloride, magnesium metal and acetylsalicylic acid.

1918 Dow adopts its diamond trademark.

1928 Styrene and Saran are developed.

1929 Dow hires its first woman researcher, Sylvia Stoesser.

1930 Dow founder H.H. Dow dies, and Willard H. Dow succeeds his father as president of Dow. J. Franklin Hyde investigates the possibility of developing plastics with the properties of glass. Silicone combines the advantages of both materials.

1934 The Ethyl-Dow plant begins the first commercial extraction of bromine from seawater.

1935 Dow enters the plastics business with the introduction of ETHOCEL™ ethylcellulose resins.

1937 Dow stock is listed for the first time on the New York Stock Exchange. STYRON™ polystyrene resin is introduced.

1940 Dow purchases land near Freeport, Texas, and begins to construct a plant. Today the Freeport site is the largest integrated chemical manufacturing complex in the Western Hemisphere.

1942 Dow’s first international expansion begins with Dow Chemical Canada, Ltd.

1943 Dow and Corning Glass form Dow Corning, a joint venture to create silicone products.

1945 The Dow Corning plant in Midland begins operation, and Earl Warrick invents silicone rubber.

1953 Dow introduces Saran Wrap® for household use.

1957 Dow Corning acquires the technology to manufacture polycrystalline silicon.

1958 Dow Corning’s Edwin Plueddemann, known as “Dr. Glue,” develops the first commercial silicone adhesive.

1959 Dow Corning implements technology to manufacture hyperpure polycrystalline silicon to produce materials for computer chips, and the first fully integrated polycrystalline silicon plant is established in Hemlock, Michigan.
1963 Dow Corning files its 1,000th U.S. patent application.
1964 Handi-Wrap® plastic film-wrap is introduced.
Dow reorganizes and sets up three international headquarters outside of Midland – Dow Europe, Dow Latin America and Dow Pacific.
1965 Dow’s one-shot measles vaccine is introduced.
1968 The first laboratory opens at the Dow Corning Center near Midland.
Apollo 8 re-enters the Earth’s atmosphere protected by a heat shield fabricated from Dow epoxy resins.
Ziploc® bags are test-marketed.
1969 Dow Corning makes history when Neil Armstrong plants his silicone rubber-soled boot on the moon. The Apollo 11 Mission employs Dow Corning silicone sealants, rubber (hoses), potting compounds and insulation.
1970 Dow introduces an automotive product line.
Dow Corning introduces flexible, thin-film silicone conformal coatings, enabling development of smaller, lighter electronic components.
1973 Dow becomes the first foreign industrial company listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange.
1979 With the establishment of Dow Corning Healthcare Group, research into ophthalmics, bioscience and drug delivery begins.
1982 Dow Corning employees move into new corporate headquarters.
1985 The Dow household product line doubles in size.
1986 Dow ranks as the world’s largest producer of thermoplastics.
1989 Dow and Eli Lilly form DowElanco, a joint venture to produce agricultural products.
1990 Dow Corning continues its expansion into Asia.
1992 Dow’s INSITE™ constrained geometry catalyst technology is introduced.
1994 New silicone rubber coatings advance automotive airbag technology.
1996 DuPont Dow Elastomers begins operations.
1998 New skin and hair care, antiperspirants and deodorants are introduced thanks to Dow Corning’s silicone gel technology.
1999 Dow announces plans to acquire Union Carbide.
2001 Dow-Union Carbide transaction is finalized.
2004 The Chinese government certifies Dow Corning to manufacture structural silicone sealant in China – the first time it awarded such a certificate to a foreign company.
2006 Dow announces its 2015 Sustainability Goals.
2007 FORTUNE magazine names Dow Corning one of the “100 Best Companies to Work for” in the United States.
2009 Dow acquires Rohm and Haas, a key element in Dow’s new Advanced Materials division.
2011 Dow unveils comprehensive plans to increase its ethylene and propylene production and connect its U.S. Gulf Coast operations to shale gas liquids.
Dow breaks ground for a new corporate headquarters in Midland.
Dow and Saudi Aramco announce a joint venture to create Sadara Chemical Co.
2015 Dow and Corning announce a definitive agreement to restructure ownership of Dow Corning in which Dow will become the full owner of the 50:50 joint venture.
Dow and DuPont announce that their boards of directors unanimously approved a definitive agreement under which the companies will merge, then subsequently spin off into three independent companies.
2016 Dow-Dow Corning transaction is finalized.