



**December 27, 1571**

Born in Weil der Stadt, Germany

**1584–1588**

Attends seminary school at Adelberg and Maulbronn

**1589–1594**

Attends the University of Tübingen, where he receives a B.A. (by examination, 1588) and M.A. (1591); nearly completes three additional years of study in theology

**April 1594**

Arrives in Graz, Styria, to assume the position of mathematics teacher and district mathematician

**1596–March 1597**

Printing of the *Mysterium cosmographicum* in Tübingen

**April 27, 1597**

Marries Barbara Müller

**September 28, 1598**

Counter-Reformation begins in Styria; Protestant teachers and preachers expelled from Graz; Kepler is allowed to return after about a month

**January–June 1600**

Visits Tycho Brahe at Benatky Castle

**September 30, 1600**

Leaves Styria with his family and all their possessions when all remaining Protestants are banished

**October 24, 1601**

Tycho Brahe dies; two days later, Kepler is named his successor as imperial mathematician to Rudolf II in Prague

**1604**

Publishes the *Astronomia pars optica*

**Around Easter, 1605**

Discovers the elliptical form of Mars's orbit

1609

*Astronomia nova* finally published

March 1610

Galileo publishes the *Sidereus nuncius* containing his telescopic discoveries; Kepler responds, publishing the *Dissertatio cum nuncio sidereo* in Prague in May

Summer 1611

Kepler publishes *Dioptrice*, containing explanation of the telescope

July 3, 1611

Barbara Kepler dies

January 20, 1612

Holy Roman Emperor Rudolf II dies; Archduke Matthias succeeds him

May 1612

Begins work as mathematician to the Estates of Upper Austria in Linz

October 30, 1613

Marries Susanna Reuttinger

July 1615

Publishes *Nova stereometria doliorum vinariorum* in Linz

Fall 1617

Publishes the first volume of *Epitome astronomiae Copernicanae* in Linz

Fall 1617–early 1618

Returns to Württemberg with his mother, but her court case is delayed

May 15, 1618

Discovers his third law of planetary motion

May 23, 1618

“Defenestration of Prague”; Thirty Years War begins

1619

*Harmonice mundi libri V* published in Linz

March 20, 1619

Holy Roman Emperor Matthias dies; Archduke Ferdinand II succeeds him 5 months later

Early 1620

Second volume of *Epitome astronomiae Copernicanae* published in Linz

August 7, 1620–August 1621

Katharina Kepler arrested for witchcraft; Johannes Kepler returns to Württemberg to assist in her defense

Fall 1621

Final volume of the *Epitome astronomiae Copernicanae* published in Frankfurt

October 1625

Counter-Reformation begins in Upper Austria

November 1626

Kepler and his family leave Linz

December 1626–September 1627

*Rudolfine Tables* printed in Ulm

July 1628

Kepler arrives in Sagan to become personal mathematician to General Wallenstein; Counter-Reformation in Sagan begins four months later

November 15, 1630

Dies while visiting a meeting of imperial electors in Regensburg

This detail of the frontispiece of the *Rudolfine Tables* shows Kepler as the architect of the achievement. He works by candlelight on a model of the temple above him. The banner lists his important publications. A few coins dropped by the Hapsburg eagle have reached his desk.



## Kepler's Principal Publications

*Mysterium Cosmographicum* (1596)

*On More Certain Foundations of Astrology* (1602)

*Astronomiae Pars Optica Traditur* (1604)

*De Stella Nova* (1606) – on the nova of 1604

*Astronomia Nova* (1609)

*Dissertatio cum Nuncio siderio* (1610)

*Narratio de Jovis satellitibus* (1611)

*Dioptrice* (1611) – theory of the telescope

*Stereometria dolorioum vinariorum* (1615)

*Harmonice Mundi* (1618)

*Epitome Astronomiae Copernicanae* (1618-1621)

*De cometis libelli tres* (1619) – on the comet of 1618

*Mysterium Cosmographicum* (revised, 1621)

*Tabulae Rudolphinae* (1627)

*Admonitio ad Astronomos rerumque celesti studiosos,  
de mirisque rarisque anni 1631phaenomensis* (1630)

*Somnium seu astronomia lunari* (1634)

After 1615, Ephemerides announcing astronomical phenomena on a regular basis, including one of 1630 above announcing 1631 transits of Mercury & Venus