

1600s	fine linen being produced in Lagan and Bann valleys
1725	Hamilton Maxwell introduces the first beetling machine in Drumbeg
1760	Vitriol (sulphuric acid) used for bleaching linen
1764	William Coulson set up damask handloom factory in Lisburn
1774	John Barbour opens first linen thread factory at Plantation in Lisburn
1780-90	White Linen Halls built Belfast (1787) and Newry (1783)
1801	Jacquard looms invented in Lyons, France
1822	introduction of first damask handlooms to Ireland by Michael Andrews in Ardoyne
1825	invention of wet spinning for cotton
1827	wet spinning adapted for linen production by Thomas Mulholland in Belfast
1870	power-looms used in the production of damask linen
1900 – 1914	busiest time for linen industry
1914 – 1918	production of linen for military use
1939 – 1945	production of linen for military use
Post 1945	decline of linen industry due to competition from modern synthetic fabrics