A Rubik's Cube Chronology
--------------------------

Researched and maintained by Mark Longridge (c) 1996-2004

Pre-Rubik
--------

Feb 2, 1960     William Gustafson files patent for Manipulatable Toy
Mar 12, 1963    Gustafson receives US patent 3,081,089
1970    Uwe Meffert invents a model for research of energy flow
         in different shape solids (pyraminx)
Apr 9, 1970     Frank Fox applies for UK patent for spherical 3x3x3
Mar 4, 1970     Larry Nichols files patent for Twizzle (2x2x2 cube)
Apr 11, 1972    Nichols receives US patent 3,655,201
Jan 16, 1974    Frank Fox receives UK patent 1,344,259

Post-Rubik
---------

Spring 1974    Erno Rubik gets idea to make the cube
Summer 1974    Erno Rubik solves the cube (arguably the first solver)
Jan 30, 1975    Rubik applies for patent on cube
Oct 12, 1976    Terutoshi Ishige Japanese Patent 55-8192 for 3x3x3
1977    Rubik's Cube starts distribution in Hungary
Mar 28, 1977    Erno Rubik receives Hungarian Patent HU00170062
Aug 1978    Bela Szalai first sees cube in Hungary, later
              manufactures cube in U.S. (Logical Games Inc)
Sept 1979    Ideal Toy buys exclusive rights to the cube for one million dollars
July 1980    MIT cube lovers group starts up
Sept 1980    Omni prints article on cube in Games column
Jan 12, 1981    Steven Hanson and Jeffrey Breslow file US Patent for Missing Link
March 1981    Scientific American's 1st article on cube
March 1981    Uwe Meffert patents the pyraminx
Mar 23, 1981    First mention of Rubik's Cube in Time Magazine
May 1981    Reader's Digest prints cube story
July 30, 1981    Walter Moll receives German patent for Dodecahedron
July 31, 1981    Cube contest featuring James G. Nourse as guest
June 1, 1981    Uwe Meffert file US Patent for Pyraminx Star
Aug 3, 1981    Erno Rubik files for patent on Rubik's Domino
Autumn 1981    Singmaster produces 1st issue of Cubic Circular
Sept 11, 1981    NBC Magazine broadcasts story about cube on TV
Nov 13, 1981    1st American Rubik's Cube Championships
Dec 11, 1981    Ron Lancaster organizes cube contest at Oakville Trafalgar High School
Dec 12, 1981    United Kingdom Rubik's Cube Championships
Jan 29, 1982    Peter Sebesteny files for US Patent for 4x4x4
Feb 28, 1982    I attend Canadian Regional Cube Contest (London Ont)
Mar 20, 1982    1st (Only) Canadian Rubik's Cube Championships
Mar 21, 1982    Toronto Star article A4 on Duc Trinh
Spring 1982    2nd issue of Cubic Circular
May 11, 1982    Uwe Meffert receives US Patent USD0264361 for Pyraminx Star
Apr 24, 1982    1st and only Dutch National Championships in Utrecht Netherlands
May 1982    1st issue of Rubik's Cube Newsletter appears (U.S.)
May/June 1982    American Scientist prints cube article
Summer 1982    3rd/4th issues of Cubic Circular
June 5, 1982    1st Rubik's Cube World Championships
July 1982    Hofstadter's article on cube variants (S.A.)
Sept 18, 1982    I attend American Regional Cube Contest (Buffalo, NY)
Oct 1982    Omni prints article on Cube variants (Megaminx)
Oct 2, 1982    Ideal hires me to work as demonstrator of Cube
Nov 5, 1982    2nd American Rubik's Cube Championships
Winter 1982    5th/6th issues of Cubic Circular
Feb 15, 1983    Hanson & Breslow receive US Patent 4,373,729 for Missing Link
May 4, 1983    Cecil Smith's cube collection featured on WCBC-TV
June 25, 1983     United Kingdom Rubik's Revenge championship
Dec  20, 1983     Peter Sebesteny receives US Patent 4,421,311 for 4x4x4
Nov 27, 1984     Matsumoto Takao receives US Patent 4,484,406 for a different Rubik's Snake
Mar  26, 1985     Adam Alexander et all receives US patent 4,506,891 for Alexander's Star
Summer 1985     7th/8th issues of Cubic Circular
June  1985     Cube appears on cover of Byte Magazine (Algorithms)
Sept 10, 1985     Tibor Horvath receives US Patent 4,540,177 for a different 4x4x4
March  1986     Discover prints excellent story on Erno Rubik
July 15, 1986     Udo Krell receives patent for 5x5x5 cube, Pyraminx Ultimate, Pyraminx Crystal, and more. US Patent 4,600,199
Dec  9, 1986     Rubik et all files for patent for Electronic Rubik's Cube
1987     Oxford press publishes Rubik's Cubic Compendium
March  1987     Cadbury uses over-sized cube in commercial
Oct  1987     Jearl Walker's article on Rubik's Magic (Hinge) S.A.
April  1987     Cecil Smith opens his Cube Museum (has 4,900 cubes)
May  1, 1988     Daily Sentinel shows Cecil's Cube Museum on front page
July 26, 1988     Los Angeles Times reports on Rubik's Clock
Apr  4, 1989     Rubik et all receives US patent 4,817,952 for Electronic Rubik's Cube
Feb  1990     1st Issue of Domain of the Cube
June 11, 1990     Beyond Tomorrow features Rubik Studio, Magic and Clock on TV
Dec  26, 1990     Hrsel & Kopsky file for US patent for Square 1
July  1991     Omni prints article on new puzzles, e.g. Moody Ball
Aug 15, 1991     First mention of Square 1 in cube-lovers
March  4, 1992     2 MCH FUN issues press release on Smart Alex
Aug 28, 1992     Hank Chang files patent for 3x3x3 Assembly Cube
Feb  1993     DOTC newsletter advertised in Games Magazine
Feb 15, 1993     Richard Snyder starts shipping his Square 1 book
Oct  5, 1993     Hrsel & Kopsky receive US patent USD0340093 for Square 1
Dec 21, 1993     Hank Chang receives US patent 5,271,688 for assembly cube
Dec  7, 1994     Martin Schoenert puts cube lovers on World Wide Web
May 16, 1995     First mention of Rubik's Dino Cube in cube-lovers
May 23, 1995     Uwe Meffert files for US patent for the Orbix puzzle
Dec  3, 1995     USA Today reports on Million Dollar Rubik's Cube, created by Diamond Cutters International for it's 15th Anniversary
Jan  22, 1996     Creation of the Domain of the Cube web page
Oct 15, 1996     Uwe Meffert receives US patent 5,564,702 for Orbix
Sept 1996     Rubik's company Androsoft launches Rubik's Games software
Apr 2001     Jonathan P Brown builds robot out of Lego to solve Rubik's Cube
Aug  23, 2003     2nd Rubik's Cube World Championships