

Lady Ada Lovelace

The Woman who invented. . .



The Computer Programme

Augusta Ada King, Countess of Lovelace 1815 – 1852 was an English mathematician and writer chiefly known for her work on Charles Babbage's early Analytical Engine. Her notes on the engine include what is recognized as the first algorithm intended to be processed by a machine.

Because of this, she is often considered the world's first computer programmer.

She referred to herself as a "poetical scientist" and as a young adult, her mathematical talents led her to an ongoing working relationship and friendship with fellow British mathematician Charles Babbage, and in particular Babbage's work on the analytical engine.

She also developed a vision on the capability of computers to go beyond mere calculating or number-crunching while others, including Babbage himself, focused only on those capabilities.

Ada died aged 32 of uterine cancer but is remembered on "Ada Lovelace Day", an annual event celebrated in mid-October whose goal is to "raise the profile of women in science, technology, engineering and maths".

The Ada Initiative is a non-profit organization dedicated to increasing the involvement of women in the free culture and open source movements.

What will you invent?