

# [Leonardo da vinci](https://assignbuster.com/leonardo-da-vinci/)

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Leonardo da Vinci, whose full legal name was Leonardo di Ser Piero d’Antonio da Vinci was born in Italy, and as his name suggests, in a town named Vinci in the region of Florence, the capital city of the Italian region of Tuscany. Being the illegitimate son of a notary, a person with legal training licensed by the state to perform acts in legal affairs, by the name Piero da Vinci and a peasant woman by the name Caterina, he was educated in the studio of renowned Florentine painter by the name Verrocchio. Though the date of Leonardo’s birth is not known with any certainty, in a taxation return made by his grandfather, in whose house he was educated, it can be concluded that he was born on April 15, 1452. Leonardo spent his first five years in the home of his mother, and later on in Francesco, a small town in Vinci, in the household of his father and grandparents.

It was here that he received informal education in mathematics, Latin and geometry. Leonardo’s earlier working life was spent in the service of Ludovico il Moro, the Duke of Milan who was also his patron. He later worked in Rome, Bologna and Venice and spent his last years at the home awarded to him by Francis 1, the King of France from 1515 until his death. Leonardo died on May 2, 1519, aged 67, and was buried in the Chapel of Saint Hubert, Rome (Hamlyn). Leonardo was an Italian polymath, a person who is very knowledgeable and whose expertise spans a significant number of different subject areas.

As a sculptor, musician, mathematician, geologist, anatomist, writer, and above all a painter, Leonardo can be described as the prime example of the Renaissance man. With his few surviving paintings, his notebooks which contain drawings and scientific diagrams, his works can only be rivaled by that of his contemporary, Michelangelo, a fellow Italian Renaissance painter, poet, engineer, and architect. Leonardo Da Vinci is considered to be one of the greatest painters of all times and is renowned for his knowledge on many and diverse fields of arts and sciences. Two of his works, the Mona Lisa and the Last Supper, are the most renowned and most reproduced parodied portrait and religious paintings of all times. Mona Lisa is a 16th century portrait painted in oil and a poplar panel. The portrait depicts a seated woman whose facial expression can be described as ambiguous as well as mysterious.

This painting is so widely recognized and sought after making it the most famous painting in the world. The Last Supper is a 15th century wall painting representing the scene of The Last Supper. Last Supper, the last meal that Jesus shared with his twelve apostles before his death. It was at this meal, as narrated in the Gospel of John, that Jesus announced that one of his apostles would betray him. Leonard created this painting for his patron, Duke Ludovico Sforza, a Duke of Milan and member of Sforza dynasty, and his duchess Beatrice d’Este.

Another drawing by Leonardo, the Vitruvian Man, created around the year 1487, is considered a cultural icon. The drawing, which is in pen and ink, depicts a male figure inscribed in a circle and a square, with his arms and legs apart (Chiesa). Leonardo is also revered for his technological ingenuity. He conceptualized a helicopter, a calculator as well as a concentrated solar power. Very few of his designs were concentrated or even feasible during his lifetime but some of his smaller inventions like the automated bobbin winder entered the world of machinery unheralded. As a scientist, Leonardo greatly advanced the state of knowledge in the fields of civil engineering, anatomy and hydronamics, a discipline in physics that deals the natural flow of fluids in motion.