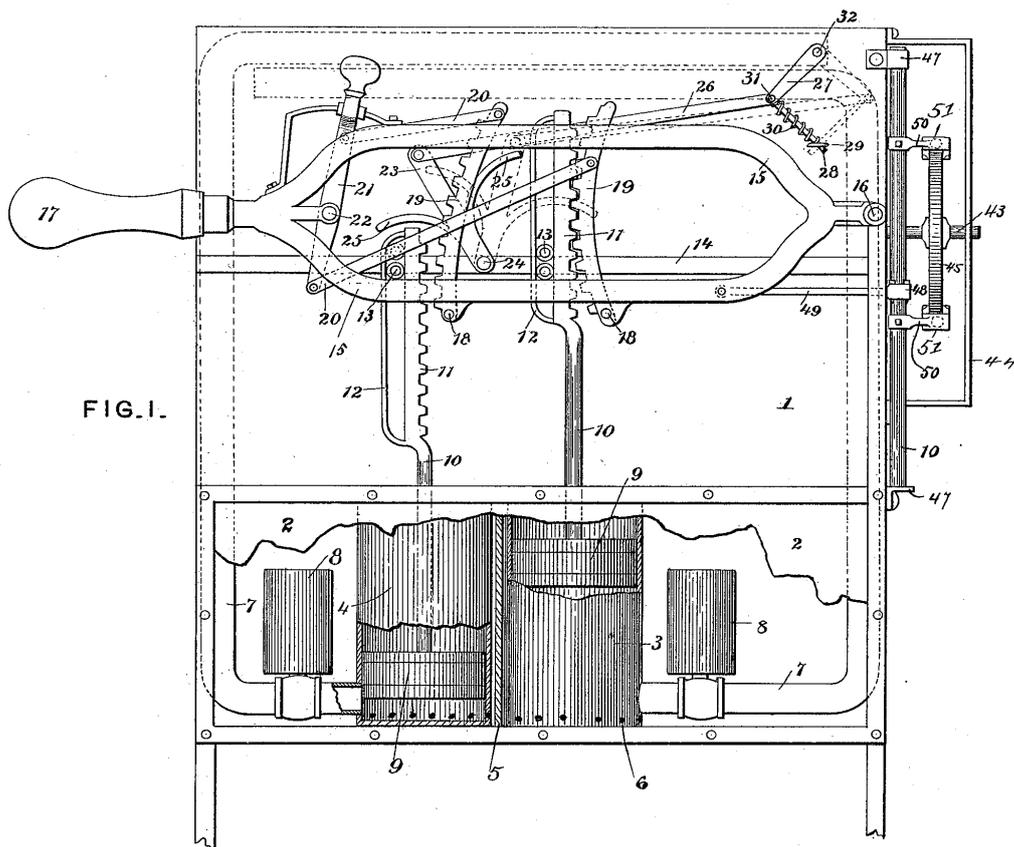


The history of the dishwasher

The first dishwasher was *patented* in 1850 by Joel Houghton. His machine was a wheel that was turned by hand. The wheel splashed water onto the dishes. But the dishes weren't cleaned properly.

Mrs Josephine Garis Cochran invented the first working dishwasher in 1886. She got angry because her servants often broke her fine *china* when they washed the dishes. She hated doing the dishes herself. Because Josephine Garis Cochran was a woman, nobody listened to her or looked at her idea for an automatic dishwasher. So she said to herself: "If nobody else is going to invent a dishwashing machine, I'll do it myself." First she measured the size of the dishes. Then she built *wire* baskets that were specially designed so that plates, cups or saucers fitted into them. The baskets were placed inside a wheel. The wheel lay flat inside a container made of *copper*. A motor turned the wheel and hot soapy water was sprayed up from the bottom of the boiler and rained down on the dishes.

In 1893, Josephine Cochran showed her machine at the World Fair in Chicago and won the highest prize. In the beginning, only restaurants and hotels bought her dishwasher because it was very expensive. Later, smaller households bought dishwashers as well.



<i>patent</i>	patentieren (Patent = Recht zur alleinigen Nutzung einer Erfindung)
<i>china</i>	Porzellan/Geschirr
<i>wire</i>	Draht
<i>copper</i>	Kupfer

The inventor of the dishwasher



Josephine Garis Cochran was born in 1839. She *inherited* the *spirit* of innovation from her father, John Garis. He helped to build the city of Chicago before the great fire. Josephine married a rich *merchant* and politician, William Cochran.

She and her husband had lots of parties in their house. When he died, Josephine was left with only little money. That was the moment when everything in Josephine Cochran's life changed. She started out in a *shed* behind her house. Four years later, she was *advertising* the Garis-Cochran dishwashing machine. After the success at the World Fair in Chicago in 1893, her company grew and grew. She died in 1913 at the age of 74.

<i>inherit</i>	erben
<i>spirit</i>	Geist
<i>merchant</i>	Kaufmann
<i>shed</i>	Schuppen/Hütte
<i>advertise</i>	Reklame machen

Further development

The development of the dishwasher was rather slow. In 1920, new models were developed which were connected to the *water pipes* in the kitchen. In 1940, electric drying elements were added. Dishwashers were still mainly used in restaurants and hotels. They only became common in households in the 1970s.



water pipe Wasserleitung