At a Glance

Getting better all the time: A quick overview of Target's history, growth and changes.

1881

Marshall Field & Co. is founded.

1902

George D. Dayton opens Goodfellows in downtown Minneapolis.

1903

Dayton Dry Goods Store is founded; in 1911, it becomes The Dayton Company.

1918

The Dayton Foundation is created with an endowment of \$1 million.

1946

The Dayton Company's bylaws establish the practice of giving 5% of pretax profits back to the community.

1962

The Dayton Company enters discount merchandising with the opening of its first Target Store.

1967

The Dayton Corporation has its first public offering of common stock.

1968

The bullseye logo is redesigned to its current appearance by dropping one of the center rings.

1969

With the merger of the Dayton Corporation and The J. L. Hudson Company, the Dayton Hudson Corporation was born.

1974

Target introduces uniform "plan-o-grams" to plan the layout and placement of store interiors and products, creating consistency throughout the chain.

1975

Target becomes parent company Dayton Hudson Corporation's #1 revenue-producer.

1978

The Dayton Hudson Corporation acquires Mervyn's and becomes the 7th largest U.S. retailer.

1985

The weekly Target advertising circular is second only to the Sunday comics as America's most read newspaper insert.

1987

Target introduces electronic scanning checkout to all its stores while software processing expedites distribution center delivery process.

1990

The Dayton Hudson Corporation acquires Marshall Field's and opens the first Target Greatland*.

1995

Target introduces their store credit card, now known as the REDcard.

1995

The first SuperTarget® store opens in Omaha, NE.

1995

Target launches Club Wedd* bridal registry; a year later, Lullaby Club* baby gift registry is introduced.

1999

Target launches Target.com, its online presence.

1999

Target introduces its first designer line of products from world-renowned architect Michael Graves.

2000

The Dayton Hudson Corporation is renamed Target Corporation.

2004

Marshall Field's and Mervyn's are sold.

2005

Target Corporation ranks among the top 20 corporate contributors in the nation, giving back \$2 million each week to the communities it serves. The company now has more than 1,300 stores in 47 states, and employs more than 300,000 team members.

2006

The Robert J. Ulrich Center, Embassy Golf Links, opens in Bangalore, India.

2007

The tradition of giving 5% of our income to charitable organizations continues, translating into more than \$3 million in change every week.