

A Chronicle of Key Events in *Schindler's List*

This timeline provides a summary of *Schindler's List* by relating key events in the film to the unfolding of the Holocaust. It is based on historian Christopher Browning's observation that "at the core of the Holocaust was an intense eleven-month wave of mass murder. The center of gravity of this mass murder was Poland, where in March 1942, despite two and a half years of terrible hardship, deprivation, and persecution, every major Jewish community was still intact; eleven months later, only remnants of Polish Jewry survived."

September, 1939	Germany conquers Poland in two weeks; World War II begins in Europe; Polish Jews are ordered to register and relocate.
October 26, 1939	Krakow becomes the capital of German-occupied Poland.
December, 1939	Oskar Schindler takes over the enamelware factory in Krakow, meets Itzhak Stern, and with Stern's help, begins using Jewish workers in his plant.
1940-early 1941	Germans expel some Jews in Krakow to other towns.
March 3, 1941	Germans establish a ghetto in Krakow.
March, 1942	About 20 to 25 percent of the Jews who would die in the Holocaust have already perished.
June, 1942	The Germans build a forced labor camp at Plaszow.
June-October, 1942	Deportations and shootings terrorize the Krakow ghetto.
February, 1943	Amon Goeth takes command of Plaszow. About 80 to 85 percent of the Jews who would die in the Holocaust have already perished.
March 13-14, 1943	The Germans liquidate Krakow ghetto.
March 1943	Schindler sets up a branch of his factory at Plaszow.
August, 1944	Schindler's factory is closed and his Jewish workers are taken back to Plaszow.
October, 1944	Schindler creates a list of Jewish workers for his new plant in Brennece, Czechoslovakia; workers are transferred from Plaszow via Auschwitz.
January, 1945	Plaszow is closed and the remaining prisoners are sent to Auschwitz.
May 8, 1945	World War II ends in Europe. The Holocaust is over.
May 9, 1945	The Soviet army liberates the camp at Brennece.
September 13, 1946	Goeth is found guilty of war crimes and is hung in Krakow.
October 9, 1974	Oskar Schindler dies in Frankfurt, Germany.