Isaac Newton Encyclopedia Article

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Isaac Newton

1642-1727

English physicist and mathematician who invented differential and integral calculus. He used this tool in developing the concept of universal gravitation and his three laws of motion, which appeared in 1687 in *Philosophiae Naturalis Principia Mathematica*—considered by many the greatest work of science ever written. Newton also demonstrated that light is composed of colors and invented a reflecting telescope. He discovered the general binomial theorem in 1665, as well as working on analysis, algebra, number theory, analytic geometry, and probability.