

# Jacques Hadamard Encyclopedia Article

## Jacques Hadamard

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# Jacques Hadamard

**1865-1963**

French mathematician who founded the branch of mathematics known as functional analysis, and developed a formula for determining the number of prime numbers. The ancient Greeks had already proved that for every prime number there is a larger one. Using his work on the Riemann zeta function, Hadamard was able to demonstrate that the number of prime numbers less than  $x$  is asymptotically equal to  $x/\log x$ . He made many other fundamental contributions to mathematics and published a book entitled *The Psychology of Invention in the Mathematical Field*.