

- A** Lobby 7 & Visitor Info Center (77 Mass Ave)
- B** Stratton Student Center
- C** Kresge Auditorium
- D** MIT Chapel
- E** Building 1 (nearby entrance to Hart Nautical Gallery)
- F** Building 3/Design & Manufacturing display
- G** Killian Court
- H** Ellen Swallow Richards Lobby
- J** Hayden Memorial Library
- K** McDermott Court
- L** Media Lab
- M** Koch Institute
- N** Stata Center
- O** Edgerton's Strobe Alley
- P** Memorial Lobby / Barker Library
- Q** MIT Museum (265 Mass Ave)
- \*** MIT Coop/Kendall Square
- X** Smoot markings

## Welcome to MIT!




We hope you enjoy your visit! The tour route outlined on this map will help you explore MIT's campus. The Office of Admissions conducts information sessions followed by student-led campus tours for prospective students and families, Mon–Fri, excluding federal, Massachusetts, and Institute holidays and the winter break period. Info sessions begin at 10 am and 2 pm; campus tours immediately follow. Visitors who are not prospective students are welcome to contact MIT Admissions to inquire about joining a campus tour after the info session concludes. Please stop by room 10-100 the day of your visit. If space is available, visitors will be informed where and when to join up with the tour group.

## Before you embark: a (very) brief MIT overview

- MIT was founded in 1861, but did not admit its first students until 1865.
- MIT was founded by William Barton Rogers, a distinguished natural scientist. Rogers wanted to establish a new kind of independent educational institution to address the challenges posed by rapid advances in science and technology. He believed that professional competence was best fostered by coupling teaching and research and focusing attention on real-world problems.
- Today, teaching and research—with relevance to the practical world as a guiding principle—continue to be MIT's primary purpose.
- MIT is independent, coeducational, and privately endowed.
- MIT comprises 5 Schools and 30+ departments, labs, centers, and programs whose work cuts across traditional departmental boundaries.
- The Institute makes freely available its class lecture notes, exams, and videos through MIT OpenCourseWare, with complete courses offered through the online learning initiative edX.
- MIT was originally located in Boston's Back Bay neighborhood. In 1916, the Institute moved to Cambridge. It is located on 168 acres that extend more than a mile along the Charles River.
- MIT's central group of interconnecting buildings, known as the Main Group, was designed by architect William Welles Bosworth (Class of 1889) and dedicated in 1916.
- Many other buildings have also been designed by leading architects such as Alvar Aalto, Eduardo Catalano, I.M. Pei ('40), Steven Holl, Frank Gehry, and Eero Saarinen. Sculptures, murals, and paintings, including works by Alexander Calder, Henry Moore, Anish Kapoor, Cai Guo-Qiang, Pablo Picasso, and Louise Nevelson, are found throughout the campus.

## MIT by the numbers

<p><b>STUDENTS</b>                  2015–16 enrollment: 11,331                  Undergraduates: 4,527                  Women*: 2,082 (46%)                  Minorities: 2,327 (51%)                  Graduate students: 6,804                  Women*: 2,265 (33%)                  Minorities: 1,381 (20%)</p>	<p><b>SELECTED HONORS (MIT COMMUNITY, CURRENT AND FORMER)</b>                  Nobel Laureates: 85                  MacArthur Fellows: 45                  National Medal of Science recipients: 58                  National Medal of Technology and Innovation winners: 29</p>
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More MIT facts: 

\*Women have attended MIT since 1871.  
 Data as of January 2016 [web.mit.edu/facts/faqs.html](http://web.mit.edu/facts/faqs.html)

## Finding your way: MIT's building numbers explained

- Although many campus buildings are named, people usually refer to the buildings by their assigned numbers.
- The numbering system may appear confusing at first, but there is an explanation for it: buildings east of Killian Court and the Great Dome (Bldg. 10 [P]) have even numbers and those to the west have odd numbers. Thus, Buildings 1 and 2 are on opposite sides of Killian Court.
- Buildings west of Massachusetts Avenue begin with a "W", those north of the railroad tracks begin with an "N", and those east of Ames Street begin with an "E".
- When you see a number on an office door, the number preceding the hyphen is the building number; the first number after the hyphen is the floor; the last numerals are the room (i.e., 1-390 is Bldg. 1, floor 3, room 90).
- To help you navigate, we use letters of the alphabet on the suggested tour route to avoid confusion with building numbers.

## WALKING TOUR ROUTE

▶ Leave Lobby 7 (Bldg. 7 [A]) and cross Massachusetts Avenue (Mass Ave). Central and Harvard Squares are up the street to your right, and the Harvard Bridge (leading into Boston) is to your left. Mass Ave is a main street connecting Cambridge and Boston, and bus stops servicing major routes can be found on either side of the street.

If you decide to walk across the Harvard Bridge (recommended if the weather is nice!), you'll notice painted markings indicating an unusual measurement: the smoot. Named for MIT graduate Oliver Smoot ('62), a fraternity pledge to Lambda Chi Alpha, the smoot originated in 1958 as part of a fraternity prank. Oliver Smoot lay down across the bridge repeatedly, using his body to measure its length (determined to be 364.4 smoots, plus or minus 1 ear). Mr. Smoot later became chairman of the American National Standards Institute and the president of the International Organization for Standardization. The term smoot is recognized today as an unofficial unit of measure.

▶ Cross Mass Ave and proceed toward the Julius Adams Stratton Building (Bldg. W20 [B]), which houses the Student Center (architect: Eduardo Catalano). Just outside of W20 you'll see Jaime Plensa's *Alchemis*. The sculpture was commissioned by an anonymous donor on the occasion of the Institute's 150th anniversary, and was given to MIT in honor of all the alumni who have helped support the Institute over the years.

Inside the Student Center you'll find a variety of quick dining options, as well as a convenience store and several service shops (post office, bank, dry cleaner, etc.). The Student Center also contains a small branch of the Tech Coop, MIT's bookstore. The main branch of the Tech Coop, which sells books, is located in Kendall Square on Main Street (Bldg. NE20, noted by the star on the upper-right hand corner of the map).

The Catherine N. Stratton Lounge, the Jerome B. Wiesner Student Art Gallery, and offices for MIT's student activities are also located in Bldg. W20. Fact: there are approximately 500 recognized student organizations and clubs, and many are open to both faculty and students.

▶ After leaving the Student Center, proceed toward Kresge Auditorium (Bldg. W16 [C]). Straight ahead to the right (just beyond Kresge and adjacent to the Student Center) are the athletics facilities, including the Zesiger Sports and Fitness Center. Farther ahead you'll find Steinbrenner Stadium and Briggs Field. MIT athletic facts:

- MIT offers one of the broadest intercollegiate athletic programs in the world.
- About 20% of undergraduates compete in intercollegiate athletics.
- MIT has 33 varsity teams; MIT competes mostly against Division III New England colleges and Ivy League schools.
- MIT's intramural program offers competition in 18 different sports.
- Physical education is required for all undergraduates.

▶ Kresge Auditorium [C]: Designed by Eero Saarinen, the main auditorium seats 1,100 people. The Little Theatre has a capacity of 212 and is used for productions by the Drama Shop and the Shakespeare Ensemble. Among Kresge's interesting features is its outer shell, which is one-eighth of a sphere that floats freely from the rest of the auditorium. Kresge's roof is supported in 3 places and is 3.5 inches thick in the middle.

The grassy area in front of Kresge Auditorium is called Kresge Oval. There you can view from a distance some of the student housing along the river. Some facts about MIT on-campus housing:

- Most undergraduates live in one of MIT's 11 Institute houses or 36 affiliated fraternities, sororities, and living groups.
- All unmarried first-year students live in one of the Institute's residence halls, with the exception of students who live with family.
- The current number of undergraduates living on campus is 3,370.
- More than 1,900 single graduate students live in MIT's 5 campus houses. MIT's 2 campus apartment complexes accommodate more than 400 graduate and undergraduate students with families.

▶ Proceed to the MIT Chapel (Bldg. W15 [D]). You may enter the Chapel unless it is being used for a service or function. The building's architect is Eero Saarinen. Inside, a metal sculpture by Harry Bertoia is behind the altar—it is used to scatter light that enters the space from the beautiful domed skylight. The Chapel also features a 1,300-pound bell cast at MIT's Metals Processing Laboratory.

▶ Cross Mass Ave and enter Bldg. 1 [E] through the doorway at 33 Mass Ave. Climb the short flight of stairs and turn left. You will now be in Bldg. 5. Down the hallway to your right is the Hart Nautical Gallery of the MIT Museum, one of the most important collections of nautical materials in the country. Gallery hours: daily, 10 am – 5 pm.

▶ Turn right when you exit the gallery and walk toward Lobby 7 [A]. When you get there, turn right to head down the Infinite Corridor, the hallway that is almost one-sixth of a mile long. (over)

(cont'd) Twice per year, people gather to watch as the sun shines the length of the corridor (weather permitting). This alignment, known as "MIThenge", occurs over the course of several days around Nov 11 and Jan 31.

▶ Turn right into Bldg. 3 [F] and look at the glass display case for Design and Manufacturing course 2.007. Signs in the case will explain the contest.

**Speaking of engineers...** MIT's mascot is the beaver, but do you know why? Beavers are nature's engineers! TIM the Beaver became the Institute's mascot in 1914.

▶ Proceed to the end of the Bldg. 3 corridor and exit left onto Killian Court [G]. Killian Court is named after MIT's 10th President, James R. Killian, Jr. On your left is the sculpture *Three-piece Reclining Figure, Draped* by Henry Moore. On the other side of the courtyard is the 11-piece granite sculpture *Guennette* by Michael Heizer.

▶ From the courtyard you'll see the iconic Great Dome, patterned after Rome's Pantheon. The Dome provides the Institute's architectural focus. Conceived in the classic tradition by Bosworth, the Dome is part of the original buildings, known as the Main Group, that comprised MIT after its 1916 move from Boston to Cambridge. Inside the Dome is the James Madison Barker (Class of 1907) Engineering Library, which you will see at the end of this tour.



**Hacks at MIT** are creative and difficult campus pranks meant to display the technical aptitude of the hacker(s) or to commemorate popular culture and historical topics. Many hacks have involved the Great Dome. You can read more about hacking at MIT by scanning the code to the right on your mobile device or by visiting [hacks.mit.edu](http://hacks.mit.edu). A few former hacks are on display in the Stata Center, which you'll see later.



▶ Exit Killian Court and enter Bldg. 4, where you'll find the Ellen Swallow Richards Lobby [H]. Ellen Swallow Richards (Class of 1873) was MIT's first female graduate and member of the teaching staff. A chemist by training, she was particularly interested in the purity of drinking water. Her work in nutrition and sanitation of food, water, and air helped establish the modern field of ecology—including the coining of the word. She was the founder and first president of the American Home Economics Association.

▶ Continue to the Hayden Memorial Library (Bldg. 14 [I]) using one of two routes:

- Proceed down the hallway through the recently renovated Simons Building (Bldg. 2), which houses MIT's Math Department.
- Exit both Bldg. 4 and Killian Court and walk along Memorial Drive. To your right you'll notice the beautiful view of Boston across the Charles River. The ground beneath your feet used to be a marsh. The Cambridge Park Commission filled the marshes where MIT now stands, building a sea wall and the parkway esplanade. The project was completed in 1898.

▶ Enter the Hayden Memorial Library Building [I], home of several departments in the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (SHASS). Most people recognize MIT for world-renowned science, math, and technology education, but may not know about the substantial and varied program in the humanities, arts, and social sciences that forms a part of the education—both curricular and extracurricular—of every undergraduate.

- Undergraduates are required to complete 8 subjects in Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences.
- SHASS offers 19 undergraduate majors and 6 interdisciplinary majors.
- Students can pursue a double major or a joint major in science or engineering and the arts and humanities.

▶ Hayden Memorial Library is 1 of 5 major subject libraries on campus. The MIT Libraries have more than 5 million items in print and digital formats. The Institute Archives and Special Collections, a unit of the Libraries, contains MIT's founding documents and the personal papers of noted faculty. The adjacent Maihaugen Gallery features ongoing exhibits of rare and unique items from the collections. The gallery is located in 14N-130 and is open weekdays, 10 am - 4 pm.

▶ By now you've probably noticed the abundance of public art on MIT's campus. Many works in the Permanent and Public Art collections were brought to campus through the MIT List Visual Arts Center's **Percent-for-Art program**. Planned in collaboration with MIT Facilities and formally instituted in 1968, the program allots 2 percent, up to \$250,000, of the budget for each new major renovation or building project to commission art. Earlier collaborations between artists and architects can also be found on campus. To explore an interactive online map of MIT's public art, scan the code on your mobile device or visit [listart.mit.edu/public-art-map](http://listart.mit.edu/public-art-map).



▶ Behind Hayden Memorial Library is Eastman Court, named for MIT's most famous donor, George Eastman of Eastman Kodak Company. Donations from Mr. Eastman, who used "Mr. Smith" as a pseudonym until his true identity was revealed in 1920, were essential in constructing MIT's Cambridge campus and in matching later fundraising campaigns.

▶ Exit Bldg. 14 by the Music Library. Nearly one-fourth of MIT undergraduates enroll in music classes, and 500+ students participate in organized music groups.

▶ You will now be standing in McDermott Court [J], which was named for Mr. and Mrs. Eugene McDermott of Dallas, Texas. (Mr. McDermott was 1 of 4 co-founders of Texas Instruments.) The sculpture just ahead of you, *The Big Sail (La Grande Voile)* by Alexander Calder, is 40 ft tall. Its 35 parts were fabricated in France and shipped to Cambridge for assembly.

The buildings surrounding McDermott Court:

- **Cecil and Ida Green Building (Bldg. 54)**: Named for another Texas Instruments co-founder and his wife, this building houses the Department of Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences and the Center for Meteorology and Physical Oceanography. Designed by noted architect I.M. Pei, a 1940 graduate of MIT's School of Architecture, and completed in 1964, the Green Building is the tallest in Cambridge (20 stories, 90 m tall). At the time it was built, Cambridge limited the number of floors a building within the city could have. To maximize height, the design team chose to include stilts at the building's base, with the first occupied floor suspended above the ground.
- **Camille Edouard Dreyfus Building (Bldg. 18)**: Also designed by I.M. Pei, this building houses much of the Chemistry Department and was dedicated in 1970.
- **Walker Memorial (Bldg. 50)**: Walker Memorial is part of the original group of buildings that made up MIT's campus. Built in honor of former MIT President Francis A. Walker, the building was designed after the gentlemen's clubs of the 19th century. Murals painted by Edwin Howard Blashfield, MIT Class of 1869, decorate the walls of Morss Hall. (Blashfield's murals can also be seen at the Library of Congress.) Today, the building houses many student group offices, the WMBR radio station, a climbing wall, and the Muddy Charles Pub, among other things. The gymnasium upstairs also serves as an exam facility.
- To the right of McDermott Court are Buildings 62 and 64, which are undergraduate dorms.

▶ Exit McDermott Court and take a left on Ames Street. If you later decide to venture down Amherst Street to explore sections of East Campus on your own (not included on this tour), you will find:

- **Senior House Dormitories (Bldg. E2) and Gray House (E1)**, both of Bosworth's original design. Gray House, formerly the President's House, was renamed in 2002 to honor MIT's 14th President Paul E. Gray and First Lady Priscilla K. Gray.
- **Alfred P. Sloan School of Management**: The School began in 1914 as Course XV, Engineering Administration. Over time, Course XV evolved to become the Alfred P. Sloan School of Management. Today, the School enrolls approximately 1,300 students, and many of its buildings are located along Amherst Street. Sloan's newest building, E62, is one of the most energy-efficient buildings on campus.
- **Grover M. Hermann Building (Bldg. E53)**: E53 houses the Dewey Library of Economics and Management and the Political Science Department. Outside the Hermann building stands an 11-ft reproduction of Pablo Picasso's *Figure decoupee*, New England's first large-scale Picasso sculpture. (cont'd)

- **MIT Medical (Bldg. E23)**: MIT Medical serves the healthcare needs of the Institute community.

▶ As you walk along Ames Street you will see the Media Lab [K], which comprises 2 buildings. The original building, E15, the Jerome B. and Laya W. Wiesner Building, was designed by I.M. Pei. (Jerome Wiesner was MIT's 13th President and former science advisor to President John F. Kennedy.) In 2009, E14 was added; the design team was led by Pritzker Prize-winning architect Fumihiko Maki.

The Media Lab contains 25+ research groups working on 350+ projects that range from neuroengineering to how children learn to developing the city car of the future. The List Visual Arts Center, MIT's contemporary art museum, is located in E15. Gallery hours: Tues - Wed and Fri - Sun, 12 pm - 6 pm; Thurs, 12 pm - 8 pm; closed Mon and on major holidays.

- ▶ Enter North Court [L] between Buildings 66 and 68.
- Straight ahead you'll see the Stata Center.
- To your left is the Ralph Landau Building (Bldg. 66), which houses the Chemical Engineering Department. I.M. Pei was also the architect for this building. Adjacent to Bldg. 66 stands a sculpture by Louise Nevelson titled *Transparent Horizons*.
- On your right is the Koch Biology Building (Bldg. 68). The main floor is open to the public. In the lobby you'll see Jim Sanborn's *Paleos*, which contains references to the scientific work being conducted in the building and integrates natural materials as architectural elements, including a petrified tree. You'll also see California sculptor Jim Melchert's mural of glazed tiles, *Coming to Light*. The 2,000+ tiles are hand-painted with abstract shapes.

▶ Enter the Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research (Bldg. 76 [M]). There you can view the public gallery on the 1st floor, which illustrates some of the cutting-edge work being done in cancer research. The Institute comprises 40+ laboratories and 500+ individuals dedicated to advancing the fight against cancer.

▶ Exit the Koch Institute and proceed to the Stata Center. On your right, you'll see a large granite sculpture. This is the campus memorial to Sean Collier, the MIT police officer who was shot and killed on April 18, 2013 during the events surrounding the Boston Marathon bombing. The memorial is a space of reflection for the MIT community.

▶ Enter the Ray and Maria Stata Center (Bldg. 32 [N]), designed by Frank Gehry. (Note: the building is open to the public only on weekdays, 8 am - 6:30 pm). The Stata Center is home to the Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory (CSAIL), the Laboratory for Information and Decision Systems (LIDS), and the Department of Linguistics and Philosophy. The hallway on the 1st floor is known as the Charles M. Vest Student Street, named for MIT's 15th President. Along Student Street you will find displays of MIT hacks.

The Stata Center is an environmentally friendly building that harvests rainwater via a storm water management system: a dry creek bed collects rainwater from adjoining roofs and surrounding plazas and retains it in a series of underground collection cells. This water is filtered through plantings and crushed stone and then sent either to a holding tank inside the building (to be used for flushing toilets) or to the city's main drainage system. The pumps are also powered by solar panels.

▶ **Research at MIT**: A special feature of education at MIT is the opportunity for students and faculty to collaborate in research activities. There are 70+ special laboratories on campus. Nearly all of the laboratories are shared by undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty members working together. (For safety reasons, it is not possible to enter laboratories during your visit.) The Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) cultivates and supports research partnerships between MIT faculty and undergraduates. Learn more about MIT research: [web.mit.edu/research/](http://web.mit.edu/research/) (or scan the code above).

▶ **Exchange programs with other universities**: Cooperative arrangements enable MIT students to take subjects for credit at Harvard University, Wellesley College, the Massachusetts College of Art and Design, and the School of the Museum of Fine Arts without additional tuition. Agreements also exist between specific departments and programs at MIT and their counterparts at Boston University, Brandeis University, and Tufts University. Students taking advantage of these programs enroll in specified subjects.

▶ **Independent Activities Period (IAP)**: IAP is a 4-week period in January that offers flexible teaching and learning for independent study and research. In addition to for-credit courses, hundreds of non-credit opportunities are offered.

▶ Exit Stata through the doors near the the Wang Fitness Center (an auxiliary fitness center to the Zesiger) and cross the walkway to enter Bldg. 16. Make your way toward Bldg. 8 (you have the option of taking a short flight of stairs or an elevator to get there—press 1R in the elevator). Once you arrive on that level, take a look out the window. You'll notice some major construction in the works: this is the future site of MIT.nano, a capital project that will be completed in 2018. This state-of-the-art facility will advance human understanding of how materials behave at the nanoscale (1 billionth of a meter). MIT researchers are exploring the ways nanoscience and nanotechnology will impact the urgent challenges of our time in health, energy, computing, and more. The construction of MIT.nano will further these innovations and support the activities of 2,000 MIT researchers.

▶ Continue down the short hallway, then turn right where the hallway intersects the Infinite Corridor. Your destination is Edgerton's Strobe Alley (Bldg. 4 [O]). To get there, proceed down the Infinite Corridor to the first stairway on your left and take the stairs to the 4th floor. If you wish to take the elevator, continue down the Infinite Corridor to the elevator bank connected to Memorial Lobby [P]. Once on the 4th floor, take a left.

▶ Edgerton's Strobe Alley (Bldg. 4 [O], 4th floor) is located along the hallway and contains photographs and hands-on exhibits.

**About:** Harold "Doc" Edgerton achieved international and lasting recognition as a pioneer in stroboscopy and ultra-high-speed photography. His remarkable photographs of stopped motion have been seen, used, and enjoyed by millions around the world for years. Doc Edgerton has been referred to as the father of electronic flash photography, and although he didn't invent the stroboscope (the word was coined in 1832), his research transformed it into an important scientific tool. Learn more about Doc Edgerton and his work via the Edgerton Digital Collections Project (scan the code on the right or visit [edgerton-digital-collections.org](http://edgerton-digital-collections.org)).



▶ Take either the elevator or stairs to the 5th floor of Bldg. 10 [P] to enter the Barker Engineering Library. The library is located under the Great Dome that you saw from Killian Court. This beautiful room reopened in 2013 after undergoing renovations.

▶ Take the elevator back down to the 1st floor of Bldg. 10 to view Memorial Lobby [P], which honors alumni who lost their lives in World Wars I and II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War.

▶ Here ends your self-guided campus tour! You may also wish to visit the MIT Museum [Q], located up the street at 265 Mass Ave. It is open daily from 10 am - 5 pm (excluding major holidays).

#### Helpful information

- **Lost? Have questions?** Contact the Information Center: 617-253-4795, Mon - Fri, 9 am - 5 pm
- View the MIT campus accessibility map via by scanning the code below or by visiting [web.mit.edu/facilities/maps/mit-accessibility-color.pdf](http://web.mit.edu/facilities/maps/mit-accessibility-color.pdf)
- For emergency information, please call 617-253-7669
- To report an emergency, call 617-253-1212

