

Useful

Francis Bacon (1561-1623), influential in the development of the scientific revolution, maintained that only a very particular sort of knowledge is worthy of pursuing. That knowledge is technological knowledge, the knowledge of how something works. Such knowledge is less the knowledge of why something works. The distinction between applied and formal science was made. It is the knowledge that has direct application and utility for man. Born is the doctrine that what is valued and good is that which is useful to man--utilitarianism. And with this knowledge, man is given power over nature; nature will do his bidding. Knowledge is power. Because it is for man, it should be knowledge made public and shared. In 1620, Bacon published his *Novum Organum* that set out his approach to inquiry and knowledge. To acquire this technological knowledge, Bacon was among the first to propose an inductive method based on observation.

