While these are sometimes considered programming, often the term software development is used for this larger overall process – with the terms programming, implementation, and coding reserved for the writing and editing of code per se. Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages. Languages form an approximate spectrum from "low-level" to "high-level"; "low-level" languages are typically more machine-oriented and faster to execute, whereas "high-level" languages are more abstract and easier to use but execute less quickly. Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem. New languages are generally designed around the syntax of a prior language with new functionality added, (for example C++ adds object-orientation to C, and Java adds memory management and bytecode to C++, but as a result, loses efficiency and the ability for low-level manipulation). In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form. There are many approaches to the Software development process. The academic field and the engineering practice of computer programming are both largely concerned with discovering and implementing the most efficient algorithms for a given class of problems.

Trial-and-error/divide-and-conquer is needed: the programmer will try to remove some parts of the original test case and check if the problem still exists. They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones. Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems. The first step in most formal software development processes is requirements analysis, followed by testing to determine value modeling, implementation, and failure elimination (debugging). Unreadable code often leads to bugs, inefficiencies, and duplicated code. Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users. For example, COBOL is still strong in corporate data centers often on large mainframe computers, Fortran in engineering applications, scripting languages in Web development, and C in embedded software. The first step in most formal software development processes is requirements analysis, followed by testing to determine value modeling, implementation, and failure elimination (debugging). As early as the 9th century, a programmable music sequencer was invented by the Persian Banu Musa brothers, who described an automated mechanical flute player in the Book of Ingenious Devices. Their jobs usually involve: Although programming has been presented in the media as a somewhat mathematical subject, some research shows that good programmers have strong skills in natural human languages, and that learning to code is similar to learning a foreign language. Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process. While these are sometimes considered programming, often the term software development is used for this larger overall process - with the terms programming, implementation, and coding reserved for the writing and editing of code per se. They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones. Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem. It is very difficult to determine what are the most popular modern programming languages. The first step in most formal software development processes is requirements analysis, followed by testing to determine value modeling, implementation, and failure elimination (debugging).