

It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability. The choice of language used is subject to many considerations, such as company policy, suitability to task, availability of third-party packages, or individual preference. Methods of measuring programming language popularity include: counting the number of job advertisements that mention the language, the number of books sold and courses teaching the language (this overestimates the importance of newer languages), and estimates of the number of existing lines of code written in the language (this underestimates the number of users of business languages such as COBOL). Readability is important because programmers spend the majority of their time reading, trying to understand, reusing and modifying existing source code, rather than writing new source code. After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug. In 1206, the Arab engineer Al-Jazari invented a programmable drum machine where a musical mechanical automaton could be made to play different rhythms and drum patterns, via pegs and cams. For example, when a bug in a compiler can make it crash when parsing some large source file, a simplification of the test case that results in only few lines from the original source file can be sufficient to reproduce the same crash. Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem. This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs. Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries. Some of these factors include: The presentation aspects of this (such as indents, line breaks, color highlighting, and so on) are often handled by the source code editor, but the content aspects reflect the programmer's talent and skills. However, readability is more than just programming style. Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users. Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation. Some languages are more prone to some kinds of faults because their specification does not require compilers to perform as much checking as other languages. It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones. It is very difficult to determine what are the most popular modern programming languages. Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries. Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability. In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages. Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages. 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. FORTRAN, the first widely used high-level language to have a functional implementation, came out in 1957, and many other languages were soon developed—in particular, COBOL aimed at commercial data processing, and Lisp for computer research. This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs. Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process.