

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. 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. Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected. However, because an assembly language is little more than a different notation for a machine language, two machines with different instruction sets also have different assembly languages. Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem. However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837. 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. 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). Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation. It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones. Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users. 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. The first compiler related tool, the A-0 System, was developed in 1952 by Grace Hopper, who also coined the term 'compiler'. Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process. It is very difficult to determine what are the most popular modern programming languages. 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. 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. Later a control panel (plug board) added to his 1906 Type I Tabulator allowed it to be programmed for different jobs, and by the late 1940s, unit record equipment such as the IBM 602 and IBM 604, were programmed by control panels in a similar way, as were the first electronic computers. Provided the functions in a library follow the appropriate run-time conventions (e.g., method of passing arguments), then these functions may be written in any other language. 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. A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it. It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability. Many programmers use forms of Agile software development where the various stages of formal software development are more integrated together into short cycles that take a few weeks rather than years. Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process.