

It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages. Various visual programming languages have also been developed with the intent to resolve readability concerns by adopting non-traditional approaches to code structure and display. 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. It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones. 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. Following a consistent programming style often helps readability. This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs. Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages. The first compiler related tool, the A-0 System, was developed in 1952 by Grace Hopper, who also coined the term 'compiler'. Following a consistent programming style often helps readability. Expert programmers are familiar with a variety of well-established algorithms and their respective complexities and use this knowledge to choose algorithms that are best suited to the circumstances. It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability. 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. The first computer program is generally dated to 1843, when mathematician Ada Lovelace published an algorithm to calculate a sequence of Bernoulli numbers, intended to be carried out by Charles Babbage's Analytical Engine. Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected. Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected. 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). 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. Programmable devices have existed for centuries. Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications. Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use. Auxiliary tasks accompanying and related to programming include analyzing requirements, testing, debugging (investigating and fixing problems), implementation of build systems, and management of derived artifacts, such as programs' machine code. Unreadable code often leads to bugs, inefficiencies, and duplicated code. Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation. The Unified Modeling Language (UML) is a notation used for both the OOAD and MDA.