

It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability. Allen Downey, in his book *How To Think Like A Computer Scientist*, writes: Many computer languages provide a mechanism to call functions provided by shared libraries. Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries. 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 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. He gave the first description of cryptanalysis by frequency analysis, the earliest code-breaking algorithm. Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation. However, with the concept of the stored-program computer introduced in 1949, both programs and data were stored and manipulated in the same way in computer memory. Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users. Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape. 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. Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties. Computer programming or coding is the composition of sequences of instructions, called programs, that computers can follow to perform tasks. Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications. 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. Programmable devices have existed for centuries. 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. 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). Trade-offs from this ideal involve finding enough programmers who know the language to build a team, the availability of compilers for that language, and the efficiency with which programs written in a given language execute. It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability. 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. Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards. It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages. It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones. Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment.