

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. 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. Computer programmers are those who write computer software. 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. Programming languages are essential for software development. Popular modeling techniques include Object-Oriented Analysis and Design (OOAD) and Model-Driven Architecture (MDA). Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape. The first step in most formal software development processes is requirements analysis, followed by testing to determine value modeling, implementation, and failure elimination (debugging). 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. Integrated development environments (IDEs) aim to integrate all such help. Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability. Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards. Assembly languages were soon developed that let the programmer specify instruction in a text format (e.g., ADD X, TOTAL), with abbreviations for each operation code and meaningful names for specifying addresses. They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones. This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs. However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837. By the late 1960s, data storage devices and computer terminals became inexpensive enough that programs could be created by typing directly into the computers. Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties. For this purpose, algorithms are classified into orders using so-called Big O notation, which expresses resource use, such as execution time or memory consumption, in terms of the size of an input. 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. Proficient programming usually requires expertise in several different subjects, including knowledge of the application domain, details of programming languages and generic code libraries, specialized algorithms, and formal logic. The following properties are among the most important: In computer programming, readability refers to the ease with which a human reader can comprehend the purpose, control flow, and operation of source code. 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). 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).