

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. It is very difficult to determine what are the most popular modern programming languages. Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications. It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability. 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. Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties. Popular modeling techniques include Object-Oriented Analysis and Design (OOAD) and Model-Driven Architecture (MDA).

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. 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. Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries. 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. 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. A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling). 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.

Programmable devices have existed for centuries. 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. After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug. Unreadable code often leads to bugs, inefficiencies, and duplicated code. Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages. After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug. Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms). 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. 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. In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form.