

By the late 1960s, data storage devices and computer terminals became inexpensive enough that programs could be created by typing directly into the computers. 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. 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. He gave the first description of cryptanalysis by frequency analysis, the earliest code-breaking algorithm. Computer programmers are those who write computer software. 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). Programmable devices have existed for centuries. 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. 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.

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. It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones. When debugging the problem in a GUI, the programmer can try to skip some user interaction from the original problem description and check if remaining actions are sufficient for bugs to appear. Some of these factors include: The presentation aspects of this (such as indents, line breaks, color highlighting, and so on) are often handled by the source code editor, but the content aspects reflect the programmer's talent and skills. 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. Programming languages are essential for software development. 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. Integrated development environments (IDEs) aim to integrate all such help. A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it. It is very difficult to determine what are the most popular modern programming languages. Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem. Programming languages are essential for software development. 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). Computer programming or coding is the composition of sequences of instructions, called programs, that computers can follow to perform tasks. It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability. They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones.