

Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape. For example, COBOL is still strong in corporate data centers often on large mainframe computers, Fortran in engineering applications, scripting languages in Web development, and C in embedded software. A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling). Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability. Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards. 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. 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. 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. 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. 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). 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. Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties. Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability. Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected. 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. Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries. The first compiler related tool, the A-0 System, was developed in 1952 by Grace Hopper, who also coined the term 'compiler'. By the late 1960s, data storage devices and computer terminals became inexpensive enough that programs could be created by typing directly into the computers. However, because an assembly language is little more than a different notation for a machine language, two machines with different instruction sets also have different assembly languages. Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape. A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling). Debugging is often done with IDEs. Standalone debuggers like GDB are also used, and these often provide less of a visual environment, usually using a command line. In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form. 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.