

Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems. A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it. Programming languages are essential for software development. 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. It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages. Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment. 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. 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. 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). It is very difficult to determine what are the most popular modern programming languages. They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones. Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability. Programming languages are essential for software development. Various visual programming languages have also been developed with the intent to resolve readability concerns by adopting non-traditional approaches to code structure and display. 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. Programmers typically use high-level programming languages that are more easily intelligible to humans than machine code, which is directly executed by the central processing unit. Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation. Programmers typically use high-level programming languages that are more easily intelligible to humans than machine code, which is directly executed by the central processing unit. Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation. In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form. 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 1206, the Arab engineer Al-Jazari invented a programmable drum machine where a musical mechanical automaton could be made to play different rhythms and drum patterns, via pegs and cams. 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. Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process. Computer programming or coding is the composition of sequences of instructions, called programs, that computers can follow to perform tasks.