

The first step in most formal software development processes is requirements analysis, followed by testing to determine value modeling, implementation, and failure elimination (debugging). A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it. 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. There are many approaches to the Software development process. Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation. However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837. Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem. 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. The choice of language used is subject to many considerations, such as company policy, suitability to task, availability of third-party packages, or individual preference. 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). Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages. 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. Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem. Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards. Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process. High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware. It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones. There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those tasks. Integrated development environments (IDEs) aim to integrate all such help. Programming languages are essential for software development. Programming languages are essential for software development. It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages. The first compiler related tool, the A-0 System, was developed in 1952 by Grace Hopper, who also coined the term 'compiler'. 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. Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms).