

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. In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form. This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs. 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. Following a consistent programming style often helps readability. Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem. In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them. In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages. It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages. 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. This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs. Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use. 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. They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones. 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. In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages. 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. It is very difficult to determine what are the most popular modern programming languages. Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms). Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users. 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. However, readability is more than just programming style. High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware. 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.