

A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it. The first compiler related tool, the A-0 System, was developed in 1952 by Grace Hopper, who also coined the term 'compiler'. The following properties are among the most important: In computer programming, readability refers to the ease with which a human reader can comprehend the purpose, control flow, and operation of source code. They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones. Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability. 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. However, readability is more than just programming style. 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. Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation. In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages. 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. Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties. Their jobs usually involve: Although programming has been presented in the media as a somewhat mathematical subject, some research shows that good programmers have strong skills in natural human languages, and that learning to code is similar to learning a foreign language. 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. For example, when a bug in a compiler can make it crash when parsing some large source file, a simplification of the test case that results in only few lines from the original source file can be sufficient to reproduce the same crash. Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem. Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms). Provided the functions in a library follow the appropriate run-time conventions (e.g., method of passing arguments), then these functions may be written in any other language. In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form. Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected. It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages. 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.