

After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug. 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. 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. 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. Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment. Integrated development environments (IDEs) aim to integrate all such help. Later a control panel (plug board) added to his 1906 Type I Tabulator allowed it to be programmed for different jobs, and by the late 1940s, unit record equipment such as the IBM 602 and IBM 604, were programmed by control panels in a similar way, as were the first electronic computers. Proficient programming usually requires expertise in several different subjects, including knowledge of the application domain, details of programming languages and generic code libraries, specialized algorithms, and formal logic. As early as the 9th century, a programmable music sequencer was invented by the Persian Banu Musa brothers, who described an automated mechanical flute player in the Book of Ingenious Devices. 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. Computer programming or coding is the composition of sequences of instructions, called programs, that computers can follow to perform tasks. This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs. Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users. 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. Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability. 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. 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. Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation. A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it. 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. 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. 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. One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis. Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected.