

High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware. Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected. Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process. 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. New languages are generally designed around the syntax of a prior language with new functionality added, (for example C++ adds object-orientation to C, and Java adds memory management and bytecode to C++, but as a result, loses efficiency and the ability for low-level manipulation). Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards. It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones. 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. Programmable devices have existed for centuries. Allen Downey, in his book *How To Think Like A Computer Scientist*, writes: Many computer languages provide a mechanism to call functions provided by shared libraries. Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment. 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. 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. 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*. 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). Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users. The first computer program is generally dated to 1843, when mathematician Ada Lovelace published an algorithm to calculate a sequence of Bernoulli numbers, intended to be carried out by Charles Babbage's Analytical Engine. In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form. 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. 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. These compiled languages allow the programmer to write programs in terms that are syntactically richer, and more capable of abstracting the code, making it easy to target varying machine instruction sets via compilation declarations and heuristics. A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling). 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. It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones.