

The first step in most formal software development processes is requirements analysis, followed by testing to determine value modeling, implementation, and failure elimination (debugging). Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation. The first step in most formal software development processes is requirements analysis, followed by testing to determine value modeling, implementation, and failure elimination (debugging). It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages. 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. A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it. Following a consistent programming style often helps readability. 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. After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug. Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages. It is very difficult to determine what are the most popular modern programming languages. 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. However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837. 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. A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it. Many programmers use forms of Agile software development where the various stages of formal software development are more integrated together into short cycles that take a few weeks rather than years. 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. 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 academic field and the engineering practice of computer programming are both largely concerned with discovering and implementing the most efficient algorithms for a given class of problems. It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages. Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem. 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. Following a consistent programming style often helps readability. High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware. 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.