

Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability. 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. Programmable devices have existed for centuries. 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. They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones. For this purpose, algorithms are classified into orders using so-called Big O notation, which expresses resource use, such as execution time or memory consumption, in terms of the size of an input. Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries. Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem. Integrated development environments (IDEs) aim to integrate all such help. Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected. 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. 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. Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability. It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability. Following a consistent programming style often helps 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. 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. 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. A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling). In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them. 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. 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. 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. Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape.