Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem. 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. Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation. Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation. Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem. 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).

Trial-and-error/divide-and-conquer is needed: the programmer will try to remove some parts of the original test case and check if the problem still exists. 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. Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem. In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form. Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties. 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. 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. 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. Programmable devices have existed for centuries. There are many approaches to the Software development process. It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages. Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages. A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling). By the late 1960s, data storage devices and computer terminals became inexpensive enough that programs could be created by typing directly into the computers. 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. Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties. It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages. 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. Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability.