

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. It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones. Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process. Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation. Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications. A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it. The first compiler related tool, the A-0 System, was developed in 1952 by Grace Hopper, who also coined the term 'compiler'. Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems. After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug. 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, 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. Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected. 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. Assembly languages were soon developed that let the programmer specify instruction in a text format (e.g., ADD X, TOTAL), with abbreviations for each operation code and meaningful names for specifying addresses. High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware. In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them. However, with the concept of the stored-program computer introduced in 1949, both programs and data were stored and manipulated in the same way in computer memory. The first step in most formal software development processes is requirements analysis, followed by testing to determine value modeling, implementation, and failure elimination (debugging). There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those tasks. 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. Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation. There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those tasks. 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. 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.