

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. There are many approaches to the Software development process. Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards. 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. Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use. Programming languages are essential for software development. Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability. 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. In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them. 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. There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those tasks. Unreadable code often leads to bugs, inefficiencies, and duplicated code. Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability. It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones. The Unified Modeling Language (UML) is a notation used for both the OOAD and MDA. Debugging is often done with IDEs. Standalone debuggers like GDB are also used, and these often provide less of a visual environment, usually using a command line. Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability. Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment. Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape. However, readability is more than just programming style. Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms). It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability. 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. Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use. Provided the functions in a library follow the appropriate run-time conventions (e.g., method of passing arguments), then these functions may be written in any other language.