

A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling). 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. Following a consistent programming style often helps readability. Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape. They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones. However, because an assembly language is little more than a different notation for a machine language, two machines with different instruction sets also have different assembly 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. Programmable devices have existed for centuries. 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. However, readability is more than just programming style. It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability. It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages. Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries. Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected. Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications. Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation. He gave the first description of cryptanalysis by frequency analysis, the earliest code-breaking algorithm. Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process. 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. Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected. Various visual programming languages have also been developed with the intent to resolve readability concerns by adopting non-traditional approaches to code structure and display. 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. 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. Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment.