

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. New languages are generally designed around the syntax of a prior language with new functionality added, (for example C++ adds object-orientation to C, and Java adds memory management and bytecode to C++, but as a result, loses efficiency and the ability for low-level manipulation). Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem. Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape. 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. Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation. In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them. FORTRAN, the first widely used high-level language to have a functional implementation, came out in 1957, and many other languages were soon developed—in particular, COBOL aimed at commercial data processing, and Lisp for computer research. 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. This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs. Programming languages are essential for software development. 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. It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages. 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. One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis. 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. A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling). 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. 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. 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. Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems. The first step in most formal software development processes is requirements analysis, followed by testing to determine value modeling, implementation, and failure elimination (debugging). Programming languages are essential for software development. 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. 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.