

Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability. Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties. 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. By the late 1960s, data storage devices and computer terminals became inexpensive enough that programs could be created by typing directly into the computers. There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those tasks. High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware. 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. 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. Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape. Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users. Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation. 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. High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware. In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in *A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages*. Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use. However, readability is more than just programming style. In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them. It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages. Computer programming or coding is the composition of sequences of instructions, called programs, that computers can follow to perform tasks. Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability. 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. 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. 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. 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. However, readability is more than just programming style.