

Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected. 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. In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them. High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware. The following properties are among the most important: In computer programming, readability refers to the ease with which a human reader can comprehend the purpose, control flow, and operation of 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. 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. 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. A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling). Expert programmers are familiar with a variety of well-established algorithms and their respective complexities and use this knowledge to choose algorithms that are best suited to the circumstances. Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users. Programmable devices have existed for centuries. 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. 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. Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation. 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. It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones. It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability. Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use. 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. The first compiler related tool, the A-0 System, was developed in 1952 by Grace Hopper, who also coined the term 'compiler'.