

However, readability is more than just programming style. Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications. 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. 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. Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation. 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. Programmable devices have existed for centuries. Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems. In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages. In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them. A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it. 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. It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability. Some languages are more prone to some kinds of faults because their specification does not require compilers to perform as much checking as other languages. Popular modeling techniques include Object-Oriented Analysis and Design (OOAD) and Model-Driven Architecture (MDA). There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those tasks. 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. 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. Following a consistent programming style often helps readability. It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones. Following a consistent programming style often helps readability. Methods of measuring programming language popularity include: counting the number of job advertisements that mention the language, the number of books sold and courses teaching the language (this overestimates the importance of newer languages), and estimates of the number of existing lines of code written in the language (this underestimates the number of users of business languages such as COBOL). Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem.