

Languages form an approximate spectrum from "low-level" to "high-level"; "low-level" languages are typically more machine-oriented and faster to execute, whereas "high-level" languages are more abstract and easier to use but execute less quickly. 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. 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. As early as the 9th century, a programmable music sequencer was invented by the Persian Banu Musa brothers, who described an automated mechanical flute player in the Book of Ingenious Devices. Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment. In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form. 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. Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users. 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. One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis. 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. Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation. In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form. Some of these factors include: The presentation aspects of this (such as indents, line breaks, color highlighting, and so on) are often handled by the source code editor, but the content aspects reflect the programmer's talent and skills. There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those tasks. 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. 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. It is very difficult to determine what are the most popular modern programming languages. Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process. 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. Computer programming or coding is the composition of sequences of instructions, called programs, that computers can follow to perform tasks. High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware. However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837. They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones. 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.