

A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling). A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it. It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability. After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug. Following a consistent programming style often helps readability. Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems. Programmable devices have existed for centuries. Computer programming or coding is the composition of sequences of instructions, called programs, that computers can follow to perform tasks. 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. Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected. Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use. In 1206, the Arab engineer Al-Jazari invented a programmable drum machine where a musical mechanical automaton could be made to play different rhythms and drum patterns, via pegs and cams. Programming languages are essential for software development. Popular modeling techniques include Object-Oriented Analysis and Design (OOAD) and Model-Driven Architecture (MDA). 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. Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem. There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those tasks. 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. 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. Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem. 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. Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use. Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation. However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837. 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.