

A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it. 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. High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware. Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process. Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems. It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones. Computer programming or coding is the composition of sequences of instructions, called programs, that computers can follow to perform tasks. It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages. Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation. Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages. Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape. 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. 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. 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. Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to 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. The first step in most formal software development processes is requirements analysis, followed by testing to determine value modeling, implementation, and failure elimination (debugging). Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems. Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape. It is very difficult to determine what are the most popular modern programming languages. Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use. 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. Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem. Following a consistent programming style often helps readability.