

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. The first step in most formal software development processes is requirements analysis, followed by testing to determine value modeling, implementation, and failure elimination (debugging). It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones. Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment. 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. Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards. Computer programming or coding is the composition of sequences of instructions, called programs, that computers can follow to perform tasks. Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected. It is very difficult to determine what are the most popular modern programming languages. New languages are generally designed around the syntax of a prior language with new functionality added, (for example C++ adds object-orientation to C, and Java adds memory management and bytecode to C++, but as a result, loses efficiency and the ability for low-level manipulation). Following a consistent programming style often helps readability. The first computer program is generally dated to 1843, when mathematician Ada Lovelace published an algorithm to calculate a sequence of Bernoulli numbers, intended to be carried out by Charles Babbage's Analytical Engine. 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. Allen Downey, in his book *How To Think Like A Computer Scientist*, writes: Many computer languages provide a mechanism to call functions provided by shared libraries. 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. Programming languages are essential for software development. By the late 1960s, data storage devices and computer terminals became inexpensive enough that programs could be created by typing directly into the computers. Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process. Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment. Following a consistent programming style often helps readability. 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. Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties. 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.