

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. 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. Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment. For example, when a bug in a compiler can make it crash when parsing some large source file, a simplification of the test case that results in only few lines from the original source file can be sufficient to reproduce the same crash. Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process. Trade-offs from this ideal involve finding enough programmers who know the language to build a team, the availability of compilers for that language, and the efficiency with which programs written in a given language execute. 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. For this purpose, algorithms are classified into orders using so-called Big O notation, which expresses resource use, such as execution time or memory consumption, in terms of the size of an input. Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms). In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form. 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. They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones. However, readability is more than just programming style. It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages. They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones. 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). However, because an assembly language is little more than a different notation for a machine language, two machines with different instruction sets also have different assembly languages. 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. Readability is important because programmers spend the majority of their time reading, trying to understand, reusing and modifying existing source code, rather than writing new source code. 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. 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*. Computer programming or coding is the composition of sequences of instructions, called programs, that computers can follow to perform tasks. However, because an assembly language is little more than a different notation for a machine language, two machines with different instruction sets also have different assembly languages. Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards. Readability is important because programmers spend the majority of their time reading, trying to understand, reusing and modifying existing source code, rather than writing new source code.