

Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape. They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones. Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem. 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. 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). Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms). Integrated development environments (IDEs) aim to integrate all such help. 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. Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties. Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape. Computer programmers are those who write computer software. 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. After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug. Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms). Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability. 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. 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. 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. Many programmers use forms of Agile software development where the various stages of formal software development are more integrated together into short cycles that take a few weeks rather than years. 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. Provided the functions in a library follow the appropriate run-time conventions (e.g., method of passing arguments), then these functions may be written in any other language. Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages. In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form. Popular modeling techniques include Object-Oriented Analysis and Design (OOAD) and Model-Driven Architecture (MDA). 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.