

Following a consistent programming style often helps readability. In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages. 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. They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones. Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards. 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. Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability. It is very difficult to determine what are the most popular modern programming languages. 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). Popular modeling techniques include Object-Oriented Analysis and Design (OOAD) and Model-Driven Architecture (MDA). Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries. 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. Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected. Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries. The Unified Modeling Language (UML) is a notation used for both the OOAD and MDA. The first compiler related tool, the A-0 System, was developed in 1952 by Grace Hopper, who also coined the term 'compiler'. It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones. Programmable devices have existed for centuries. 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. 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. Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process. 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. 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.