

Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use. There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those tasks. 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). Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use. Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this 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. It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages. A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling). There are many approaches to the Software development process. Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process. 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. Unreadable code often leads to bugs, inefficiencies, and duplicated code. Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem. However, readability is more than just programming style. Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages. Computer programmers are those who write computer software. However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837. Auxiliary tasks accompanying and related to programming include analyzing requirements, testing, debugging (investigating and fixing problems), implementation of build systems, and management of derived artifacts, such as programs' machine code. Debugging is often done with IDEs. Standalone debuggers like GDB are also used, and these often provide less of a visual environment, usually using a command line. Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation. 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. 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. Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment. This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs.