

It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones. Later a control panel (plug board) added to his 1906 Type I Tabulator allowed it to be programmed for different jobs, and by the late 1940s, unit record equipment such as the IBM 602 and IBM 604, were programmed by control panels in a similar way, as were the first electronic computers. This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs. Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards. 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. Trial-and-error/divide-and-conquer is needed: the programmer will try to remove some parts of the original test case and check if the problem still exists. 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. 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. In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them. Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use. A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling). Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process. The academic field and the engineering practice of computer programming are both largely concerned with discovering and implementing the most efficient algorithms for a given class of problems. 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. Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem. They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones. Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability. Later a control panel (plug board) added to his 1906 Type I Tabulator allowed it to be programmed for different jobs, and by the late 1940s, unit record equipment such as the IBM 602 and IBM 604, were programmed by control panels in a similar way, as were the first electronic computers. However, with the concept of the stored-program computer introduced in 1949, both programs and data were stored and manipulated in the same way in computer memory. Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation. 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. This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs. Computer programmers are those who write computer software. Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications. Later a control panel (plug board) added to his 1906 Type I Tabulator allowed it to be programmed for different jobs, and by the late 1940s, unit record equipment such as the IBM 602 and IBM 604, were programmed by control panels in a similar way, as were the first electronic computers.