

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 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. Programming languages are essential for software development. Expert programmers are familiar with a variety of well-established algorithms and their respective complexities and use this knowledge to choose algorithms that are best suited to the circumstances. Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages. Some of these factors include: The presentation aspects of this (such as indents, line breaks, color highlighting, and so on) are often handled by the source code editor, but the content aspects reflect the programmer's talent and skills. 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. He gave the first description of cryptanalysis by frequency analysis, the earliest code-breaking algorithm. Some languages are more prone to some kinds of faults because their specification does not require compilers to perform as much checking as other languages. 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. These compiled languages allow the programmer to write programs in terms that are syntactically richer, and more capable of abstracting the code, making it easy to target varying machine instruction sets via compilation declarations and heuristics. Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries. However, readability is more than just programming style. 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. 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. Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems. 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. Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process. 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. 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. Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms). Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries. Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process.