

A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling). Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards. Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation. 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. 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. Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability. 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. Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem. Computer programming or coding is the composition of sequences of instructions, called programs, that computers can follow to perform tasks. In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form. 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. 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. Following a consistent programming style often helps readability. For example, COBOL is still strong in corporate data centers often on large mainframe computers, Fortran in engineering applications, scripting languages in Web development, and C in embedded software. It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages. 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. Unreadable code often leads to bugs, inefficiencies, and duplicated 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. While these are sometimes considered programming, often the term software development is used for this larger overall process – with the terms programming, implementation, and coding reserved for the writing and editing of code per se. 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. It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages. 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. A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it. 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. 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.