

There are many approaches to the Software development process. Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards. Various visual programming languages have also been developed with the intent to resolve readability concerns by adopting non-traditional approaches to code structure and display. 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. Following a consistent programming style often helps readability. 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 is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones. 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. The following properties are among the most important: In computer programming, readability refers to the ease with which a human reader can comprehend the purpose, control flow, and operation of source code. Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation. Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process. They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones. In 1206, the Arab engineer Al-Jazari invented a programmable drum machine where a musical mechanical automaton could be made to play different rhythms and drum patterns, via pegs and cams.

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. Programmable devices have existed for centuries. 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. Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability. In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form. Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications. 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. Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries. Assembly languages were soon developed that let the programmer specify instruction in a text format (e.g., ADD X, TOTAL), with abbreviations for each operation code and meaningful names for specifying addresses. 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. Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape. Programming languages are essential for software development.