

A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it. Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards. By the late 1960s, data storage devices and computer terminals became inexpensive enough that programs could be created by typing directly into the computers. They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones. 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. Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability. 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. When debugging the problem in a GUI, the programmer can try to skip some user interaction from the original problem description and check if remaining actions are sufficient for bugs to appear. 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 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. Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected. High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware. By the late 1960s, data storage devices and computer terminals became inexpensive enough that programs could be created by typing directly into the computers. This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs. 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. 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. Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem. Languages form an approximate spectrum from "low-level" to "high-level"; "low-level" languages are typically more machine-oriented and faster to execute, whereas "high-level" languages are more abstract and easier to use but execute less quickly. The first compiler related tool, the A-0 System, was developed in 1952 by Grace Hopper, who also coined the term 'compiler'. One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis. Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation. Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation. 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. 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*. 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.