There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those tasks. It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages. Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use. 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. A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling). 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. 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. 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. Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem. Programmable devices have existed for centuries. By the late 1960s, data storage devices and computer terminals became inexpensive enough that programs could be created by typing directly into the computers. Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users. 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. Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards. Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected. In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form. 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. 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. It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones. Proficient programming usually requires expertise in several different subjects, including knowledge of the application domain, details of programming languages and generic code libraries, specialized algorithms, and formal logic. It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones. One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis. Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation. Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries.