

Computer programming or coding is the composition of sequences of instructions, called programs, that computers can follow to perform tasks. The first step in most formal software development processes is requirements analysis, followed by testing to determine value modeling, implementation, and failure elimination (debugging). Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards. High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware. Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected. One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis. 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. 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. For this purpose, algorithms are classified into orders using so-called Big O notation, which expresses resource use, such as execution time or memory consumption, in terms of the size of an input. Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms). 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. In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages. However, readability is more than just programming style. It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability. Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment. 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. Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment. Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties. 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. 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. This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs. Following a consistent programming style often helps readability. Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected. Many programmers use forms of Agile software development where the various stages of formal software development are more integrated together into short cycles that take a few weeks rather than years. In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them.