

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. Following a consistent programming style often helps readability. 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. Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages. In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them. The first compiler related tool, the A-0 System, was developed in 1952 by Grace Hopper, who also coined the term 'compiler'. By the late 1960s, data storage devices and computer terminals became inexpensive enough that programs could be created by typing directly into the computers. 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. 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. In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form. Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems. By the late 1960s, data storage devices and computer terminals became inexpensive enough that programs could be created by typing directly into the computers. 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. Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation. Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users. 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. After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug. Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation. One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis. However, readability is more than just programming style. 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. 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. They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones. 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. 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.