Programmable devices have existed for centuries..  
In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages.  
 High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware.  
Integrated development environments (IDEs) aim to integrate all such help.  
 Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries.  
Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use.  
 Following a consistent programming style often helps readability.  
Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process.  
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.  
Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability.  
  
 Computer programming or coding is the composition of sequences of instructions, called programs, that computers can follow to perform tasks.  
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.  
There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those tasks.  
 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.  
 It is very difficult to determine what are the most popular modern programming languages.