Methods of measuring programming language popularity include: counting the number of job advertisements that mention the language, the number of books sold and courses teaching the language (this overestimates the importance of newer languages), and estimates of the number of existing lines of code written in the language (this underestimates the number of users of business languages such as COBOL)..  
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.  
Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems.  
Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use.  
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.  
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.  
 Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties.  
There are many approaches to the Software development process.  
 After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug.  
A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
 High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware.  
 Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms).  
Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process.  
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.  
 Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users.