It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages..  
 It is very difficult to determine what are the most popular modern programming languages.  
Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems.  
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.  
 Programmable devices have existed for centuries.  
Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected.  
A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
 A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling).  
In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages.  
 Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms).  
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.  
 Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties.  
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.  
 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.  
While these are sometimes considered programming, often the term software development is used for this larger overall process – with the terms programming, implementation, and coding reserved for the writing and editing of code per se.