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..  
Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment.  
Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected.  
Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process.  
 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.  
Integrated development environments (IDEs) aim to integrate all such help.  
Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process.  
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.  
 Allen Downey, in his book How To Think Like A Computer Scientist, writes:  
 Many computer languages provide a mechanism to call functions provided by shared libraries.  
 Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms).  
Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability.  
Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem.  
He gave the first description of cryptanalysis by frequency analysis, the earliest code-breaking algorithm.  
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.  
 Auxiliary tasks accompanying and related to programming include analyzing requirements, testing, debugging (investigating and fixing problems), implementation of build systems, and management of derived artifacts, such as programs' machine code.