One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis..  
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.  
 In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form.  
However, readability is more than just programming style.  
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.  
A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
Expert programmers are familiar with a variety of well-established algorithms and their respective complexities and use this knowledge to choose algorithms that are best suited to the circumstances.  
There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those tasks.  
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.  
This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs.  
Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards.  
Provided the functions in a library follow the appropriate run-time conventions (e.g., method of passing arguments), then these functions may be written in any other language.  
 A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling).  
 Computer programmers are those who write computer software.  
Trade-offs from this ideal involve finding enough programmers who know the language to build a team, the availability of compilers for that language, and the efficiency with which programs written in a given language execute.