Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape..  
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.  
Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem.  
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.  
 Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages.  
  
The first compiler related tool, the A-0 System, was developed in 1952 by Grace Hopper, who also coined the term 'compiler'.  
In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages.  
Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards.  
Some languages are more prone to some kinds of faults because their specification does not require compilers to perform as much checking as other languages.  
 It is very difficult to determine what are the most popular modern programming languages.  
They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones.  
Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected.  
 After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug.  
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).  
 Following a consistent programming style often helps readability.