Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation..  
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.  
It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones.  
The following properties are among the most important:  
  
 In computer programming, readability refers to the ease with which a human reader can comprehend the purpose, control flow, and operation of source code.  
However, because an assembly language is little more than a different notation for a machine language, two machines with different instruction sets also have different assembly languages.  
 In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form.  
Programming languages are essential for software development.  
 It is very difficult to determine what are the most popular modern programming languages.  
However, with the concept of the stored-program computer introduced in 1949, both programs and data were stored and manipulated in the same way in computer memory.  
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.  
Integrated development environments (IDEs) aim to integrate all such help.  
Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability.  
Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process.  
 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.  
 Programmable devices have existed for centuries.