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..  
It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability.  
Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process.  
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.  
 Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties.  
Languages form an approximate spectrum from "low-level" to "high-level"; "low-level" languages are typically more machine-oriented and faster to execute, whereas "high-level" languages are more abstract and easier to use but execute less quickly.  
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.  
Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability.  
For this purpose, algorithms are classified into orders using so-called Big O notation, which expresses resource use, such as execution time or memory consumption, in terms of the size of an input.  
One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis.  
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.  
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).  
Programming languages are essential for software development.  
 High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware.  
Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability.