As early as the 9th century, a programmable music sequencer was invented by the Persian Banu Musa brothers, who described an automated mechanical flute player in the Book of Ingenious Devices..  
It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones.  
Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems.  
 The first computer program is generally dated to 1843, when mathematician Ada Lovelace published an algorithm to calculate a sequence of Bernoulli numbers, intended to be carried out by Charles Babbage's Analytical Engine.  
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.  
 It is very difficult to determine what are the most popular modern programming languages.  
Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem.  
 Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users.  
Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process.  
Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use.  
 In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form.  
In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages.  
When debugging the problem in a GUI, the programmer can try to skip some user interaction from the original problem description and check if remaining actions are sufficient for bugs to appear.  
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).  
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.