Computer programming or coding is the composition of sequences of instructions, called programs, that computers can follow to perform tasks..  
They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones.  
Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process.  
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.  
 High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware.  
 Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms).  
Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected.  
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.  
 The academic field and the engineering practice of computer programming are both largely concerned with discovering and implementing the most efficient algorithms for a given class of problems.  
There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those tasks.  
While these are sometimes considered programming, often the term software development is used for this larger overall process – with the terms programming, implementation, and coding reserved for the writing and editing of code per se.  
 Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users.  
Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability.  
Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem.  
  
The first compiler related tool, the A-0 System, was developed in 1952 by Grace Hopper, who also coined the term 'compiler'.