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.  
Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment.  
 Programmable devices have existed for centuries.  
 Popular modeling techniques include Object-Oriented Analysis and Design (OOAD) and Model-Driven Architecture (MDA).  
In 1206, the Arab engineer Al-Jazari invented a programmable drum machine where a musical mechanical automaton could be made to play different rhythms and drum patterns, via pegs and cams.  
 A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling).  
In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them.  
There are many approaches to the Software development process.  
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.  
For example, COBOL is still strong in corporate data centers often on large mainframe computers, Fortran in engineering applications, scripting languages in Web development, and C in embedded software.  
 Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape.  
 Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation.  
Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards.  
Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability.