In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them..  
Some languages are more prone to some kinds of faults because their specification does not require compilers to perform as much checking as other languages.  
In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages.  
Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected.  
It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages.  
 Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms).  
A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs.  
Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment.  
 After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug.  
 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.  
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.  
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.  
Unreadable code often leads to bugs, inefficiencies, and duplicated code.  
 Readability is important because programmers spend the majority of their time reading, trying to understand, reusing and modifying existing source code, rather than writing new source code.