Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation..  
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.  
 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.  
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).  
Later a control panel (plug board) added to his 1906 Type I Tabulator allowed it to be programmed for different jobs, and by the late 1940s, unit record equipment such as the IBM 602 and IBM 604, were programmed by control panels in a similar way, as were the first electronic computers.  
 The first step in most formal software development processes is requirements analysis, followed by testing to determine value modeling, implementation, and failure elimination (debugging).  
 Auxiliary tasks accompanying and related to programming include analyzing requirements, testing, debugging (investigating and fixing problems), implementation of build systems, and management of derived artifacts, such as programs' machine code.  
Programming languages are essential for software development.  
A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
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 text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment.  
 Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages.  
 High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware.  
 Programmable devices have existed for centuries.  
It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages.