Programmers typically use high-level programming languages that are more easily intelligible to humans than machine code, which is directly executed by the central processing unit..  
Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use.  
Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process.  
Expert programmers are familiar with a variety of well-established algorithms and their respective complexities and use this knowledge to choose algorithms that are best suited to the circumstances.  
Integrated development environments (IDEs) aim to integrate all such help.  
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.  
It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones.  
 Programmable devices have existed for centuries.  
FORTRAN, the first widely used high-level language to have a functional implementation, came out in 1957, and many other languages were soon developed—in particular, COBOL aimed at commercial data processing, and Lisp for computer research.  
 Computer programmers are those who write computer software.  
Programming languages are essential for software development.  
However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837.  
Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability.  
Proficient programming usually requires expertise in several different subjects, including knowledge of the application domain, details of programming languages and generic code libraries, specialized algorithms, and formal logic.  
 The first step in most formal software development processes is requirements analysis, followed by testing to determine value modeling, implementation, and failure elimination (debugging).