For this purpose, algorithms are classified into orders using so-called Big O notation, which expresses resource use, such as execution time or memory consumption, in terms of the size of an input..  
However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837.  
Their jobs usually involve:  
 Although programming has been presented in the media as a somewhat mathematical subject, some research shows that good programmers have strong skills in natural human languages, and that learning to code is similar to learning a foreign language.  
  
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.  
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.  
One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis.  
 Following a consistent programming style often helps readability.  
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.  
 After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug.  
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.  
Provided the functions in a library follow the appropriate run-time conventions (e.g., method of passing arguments), then these functions may be written in any other language.  
It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones.  
A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
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.