Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected..  
 Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape.  
 After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug.  
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.  
 Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users.  
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.  
Trade-offs from this ideal involve finding enough programmers who know the language to build a team, the availability of compilers for that language, and the efficiency with which programs written in a given language execute.  
  
 High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware.  
 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.  
Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems.  
Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation.  
 New languages are generally designed around the syntax of a prior language with new functionality added, (for example C++ adds object-orientation to C, and Java adds memory management and bytecode to C++, but as a result, loses efficiency and the ability for low-level manipulation).  
Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process.  
By the late 1960s, data storage devices and computer terminals became inexpensive enough that programs could be created by typing directly into the computers.