Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape..  
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.  
 Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms).  
 Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications.  
Integrated development environments (IDEs) aim to integrate all such help.  
This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs.  
 After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug.  
There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those tasks.  
 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.  
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.  
In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them.  
It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones.  
 Various visual programming languages have also been developed with the intent to resolve readability concerns by adopting non-traditional approaches to code structure and display.  
Some of these factors include:  
 The presentation aspects of this (such as indents, line breaks, color highlighting, and so on) are often handled by the source code editor, but the content aspects reflect the programmer's talent and skills.  
 A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling).