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..  
 Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries.  
Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability.  
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.  
 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.  
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.  
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.  
 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).  
Integrated development environments (IDEs) aim to integrate all such help.  
 Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms).  
 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.  
Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process.  
Many programmers use forms of Agile software development where the various stages of formal software development are more integrated together into short cycles that take a few weeks rather than years.  
Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem.