Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties..  
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.  
  
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.  
Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems.  
For example, when a bug in a compiler can make it crash when parsing some large source file, a simplification of the test case that results in only few lines from the original source file can be sufficient to reproduce the same crash.  
Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process.  
 In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form.  
Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment.  
 Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms).  
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.  
In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages.  
 After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug.  
 Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users.  
Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem.