Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use..  
It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones.  
The choice of language used is subject to many considerations, such as company policy, suitability to task, availability of third-party packages, or individual preference.  
 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.  
 Programmable devices have existed for centuries.  
Unreadable code often leads to bugs, inefficiencies, and duplicated code.  
While these are sometimes considered programming, often the term software development is used for this larger overall process – with the terms programming, implementation, and coding reserved for the writing and editing of code per se.  
 Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation.  
 The academic field and the engineering practice of computer programming are both largely concerned with discovering and implementing the most efficient algorithms for a given class of problems.  
 Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries.  
 Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages.  
By the late 1960s, data storage devices and computer terminals became inexpensive enough that programs could be created by typing directly into the computers.  
 The first step in most formal software development processes is requirements analysis, followed by testing to determine value modeling, implementation, and failure elimination (debugging).  
Methods of measuring programming language popularity include: counting the number of job advertisements that mention the language, the number of books sold and courses teaching the language (this overestimates the importance of newer languages), and estimates of the number of existing lines of code written in the language (this underestimates the number of users of business languages such as COBOL).  
 In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form.