Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability..  
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).  
They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones.  
 Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation.  
 Programmable devices have existed for centuries.  
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.  
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.  
Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems.  
Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process.  
 The first step in most formal software development processes is requirements analysis, followed by testing to determine value modeling, implementation, and failure elimination (debugging).  
 Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms).  
 Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties.  
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.  
The following properties are among the most important:  
  
 In computer programming, readability refers to the ease with which a human reader can comprehend the purpose, control flow, and operation of source code.  
However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837.