Following a consistent programming style often helps readability..  
 Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape.  
However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837.  
 Readability is important because programmers spend the majority of their time reading, trying to understand, reusing and modifying existing source code, rather than writing new source code.  
Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process.  
Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem.  
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).  
However, with the concept of the stored-program computer introduced in 1949, both programs and data were stored and manipulated in the same way in computer memory.  
A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
Provided the functions in a library follow the appropriate run-time conventions (e.g., method of passing arguments), then these functions may be written in any other language.  
 Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation.  
Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use.  
For example, COBOL is still strong in corporate data centers often on large mainframe computers, Fortran in engineering applications, scripting languages in Web development, and C in embedded software.  
Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems.  
Trade-offs from this ideal involve finding enough programmers who know the language to build a team, the availability of compilers for that language, and the efficiency with which programs written in a given language execute.