In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form..  
It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones.  
In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them.  
 Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms).  
 Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries.  
Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem.  
 After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug.  
 High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware.  
Proficient programming usually requires expertise in several different subjects, including knowledge of the application domain, details of programming languages and generic code libraries, specialized algorithms, and formal logic.  
 Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties.  
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.  
A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages.  
 The first step in most formal software development processes is requirements analysis, followed by testing to determine value modeling, implementation, and failure elimination (debugging).  
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.