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..  
 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.  
 Popular modeling techniques include Object-Oriented Analysis and Design (OOAD) and Model-Driven Architecture (MDA).  
 The first computer program is generally dated to 1843, when mathematician Ada Lovelace published an algorithm to calculate a sequence of Bernoulli numbers, intended to be carried out by Charles Babbage's Analytical Engine.  
 Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation.  
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.  
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.  
 Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users.  
Programming languages are essential for software development.  
The Unified Modeling Language (UML) is a notation used for both the OOAD and MDA.  
 Following a consistent programming style often helps readability.  
 A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling).  
Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process.