Expert programmers are familiar with a variety of well-established algorithms and their respective complexities and use this knowledge to choose algorithms that are best suited to the circumstances..  
In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages.  
 A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling).  
Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem.  
There are many approaches to the Software development process.  
For example, when a bug in a compiler can make it crash when parsing some large source file, a simplification of the test case that results in only few lines from the original source file can be sufficient to reproduce the same crash.  
 Following a consistent programming style often helps readability.  
However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837.  
 Programmable devices have existed for centuries.  
Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability.  
By the late 1960s, data storage devices and computer terminals became inexpensive enough that programs could be created by typing directly into the computers.  
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).  
 Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties.  
One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis.  
When debugging the problem in a GUI, the programmer can try to skip some user interaction from the original problem description and check if remaining actions are sufficient for bugs to appear.