Computer programming or coding is the composition of sequences of instructions, called programs, that computers can follow to perform tasks..  
 High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware.  
 The academic field and the engineering practice of computer programming are both largely concerned with discovering and implementing the most efficient algorithms for a given class of problems.  
Unreadable code often leads to bugs, inefficiencies, and duplicated code.  
As early as the 9th century, a programmable music sequencer was invented by the Persian Banu Musa brothers, who described an automated mechanical flute player in the Book of Ingenious Devices.  
Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation.  
It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability.  
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.  
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.  
In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them.  
Assembly languages were soon developed that let the programmer specify instruction in a text format (e.g., ADD X, TOTAL), with abbreviations for each operation code and meaningful names for specifying addresses.  
A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis.  
For this purpose, algorithms are classified into orders using so-called Big O notation, which expresses resource use, such as execution time or memory consumption, in terms of the size of an input.