There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those tasks..  
 In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form.  
 Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries.  
Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem.  
Later a control panel (plug board) added to his 1906 Type I Tabulator allowed it to be programmed for different jobs, and by the late 1940s, unit record equipment such as the IBM 602 and IBM 604, were programmed by control panels in a similar way, as were the first electronic computers.  
Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment.  
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.  
However, readability is more than just programming style.  
This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs.  
 Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties.  
 Debugging is often done with IDEs. Standalone debuggers like GDB are also used, and these often provide less of a visual environment, usually using a command line.  
  
Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability.  
 Auxiliary tasks accompanying and related to programming include analyzing requirements, testing, debugging (investigating and fixing problems), implementation of build systems, and management of derived artifacts, such as programs' machine code.  
Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem.