Programmable devices have existed for centuries..  
Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment.  
Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem.  
 It is very difficult to determine what are the most popular modern programming languages.  
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.  
There are many approaches to the Software development process.  
In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them.  
Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process.  
 Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms).  
 Allen Downey, in his book How To Think Like A Computer Scientist, writes:  
 Many computer languages provide a mechanism to call functions provided by shared libraries.  
Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use.  
Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability.  
 Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties.  
 Popular modeling techniques include Object-Oriented Analysis and Design (OOAD) and Model-Driven Architecture (MDA).  
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.