It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages..  
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.  
 Various visual programming languages have also been developed with the intent to resolve readability concerns by adopting non-traditional approaches to code structure and display.  
Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability.  
Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability.  
 Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties.  
 Following a consistent programming style often helps readability.  
However, because an assembly language is little more than a different notation for a machine language, two machines with different instruction sets also have different assembly languages.  
They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones.  
Trade-offs from this ideal involve finding enough programmers who know the language to build a team, the availability of compilers for that language, and the efficiency with which programs written in a given language execute.  
There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those tasks.  
Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards.  
 Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape.  
 High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware.  
Languages form an approximate spectrum from "low-level" to "high-level"; "low-level" languages are typically more machine-oriented and faster to execute, whereas "high-level" languages are more abstract and easier to use but execute less quickly.