Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape..  
  
 Computer programming or coding is the composition of sequences of instructions, called programs, that computers can follow to perform tasks.  
 Following a consistent programming style often helps readability.  
A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
 Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users.  
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.  
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.  
 Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages.  
Programmers typically use high-level programming languages that are more easily intelligible to humans than machine code, which is directly executed by the central processing unit.  
 Computer programmers are those who write computer software.  
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.  
However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837.  
In 1206, the Arab engineer Al-Jazari invented a programmable drum machine where a musical mechanical automaton could be made to play different rhythms and drum patterns, via pegs and cams.  
However, readability is more than just programming style.  
Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment.