Their jobs usually involve:  
 Although programming has been presented in the media as a somewhat mathematical subject, some research shows that good programmers have strong skills in natural human languages, and that learning to code is similar to learning a foreign language..  
 The first computer program is generally dated to 1843, when mathematician Ada Lovelace published an algorithm to calculate a sequence of Bernoulli numbers, intended to be carried out by Charles Babbage's Analytical Engine.  
 It is very difficult to determine what are the most popular modern programming languages.  
It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability.  
In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them.  
A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process.  
One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis.  
While these are sometimes considered programming, often the term software development is used for this larger overall process – with the terms programming, implementation, and coding reserved for the writing and editing of code per se.  
 High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware.  
Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use.  
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.  
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.  
 Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape.  
 Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users.