Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation..  
However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837.  
 Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape.  
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.  
However, readability is more than just programming style.  
 Readability is important because programmers spend the majority of their time reading, trying to understand, reusing and modifying existing source code, rather than writing new source code.  
FORTRAN, the first widely used high-level language to have a functional implementation, came out in 1957, and many other languages were soon developed—in particular, COBOL aimed at commercial data processing, and Lisp for computer research.  
Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process.  
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.  
Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem.  
 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.  
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.  
It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages.  
 In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form.  
Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem.