Programmable devices have existed for centuries..  
By the late 1960s, data storage devices and computer terminals became inexpensive enough that programs could be created by typing directly into the computers.  
In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them.  
For example, when a bug in a compiler can make it crash when parsing some large source file, a simplification of the test case that results in only few lines from the original source file can be sufficient to reproduce the same crash.  
Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process.  
Provided the functions in a library follow the appropriate run-time conventions (e.g., method of passing arguments), then these functions may be written in any other language.  
Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability.  
 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.  
This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs.  
Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem.  
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.  
It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability.  
 Following a consistent programming style often helps readability.  
However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837.