Compiling takes the source code from a low-level programming language and converts it into machine code.  
Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability.  
Methods of measuring programming language popularity include: counting the number of job advertisements that mention the language, the number of books sold and courses teaching the language (this overestimates the importance of newer languages), and estimates of the number of existing lines of code written in the language (this underestimates the number of users of business languages such as COBOL).  
Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem.  
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 is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones.  
Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected.  
Expert programmers are familiar with a variety of well-established algorithms and their respective complexities and use this knowledge to choose algorithms that are best suited to the circumstances.  
 New languages are generally designed around the syntax of a prior language with new functionality added, (for example C++ adds object-orientation to C, and Java adds memory management and bytecode to C++, but as a result, loses efficiency and the ability for low-level manipulation).  
One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis.  
Relatedly, software engineering combines engineering techniques and principles with software development.  
Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected.  
 Debugging is often done with IDEs. Standalone debuggers like GDB are also used, and these often provide less of a visual environment, usually using a command line.  
Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment.  
In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages.