A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
However, while these might be considered part of the programming process, often the term software development is more likely used for this larger overall process – whereas the terms programming, implementation, and coding tend to be focused on the actual writing of code.  
However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837.  
As early as the 9th century, a programmable music sequencer was invented by the Persian Banu Musa brothers, who described an automated mechanical flute player in the Book of Ingenious Devices.  
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).  
Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability.  
Some languages are more prone to some kinds of faults because their specification does not require compilers to perform as much checking as other languages.  
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.  
It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability.  
Proficient programming thus usually requires expertise in several different subjects, including knowledge of the application domain, specialized algorithms, and formal logic.  
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.  
 Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries.  
He gave the first description of cryptanalysis by frequency analysis, the earliest code-breaking algorithm.  
 Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation.