Proficient programming thus usually requires expertise in several different subjects, including knowledge of the application domain, specialized algorithms, and formal logic.  
For example, COBOL is still strong in corporate data centers often on large mainframe computers, Fortran in engineering applications, scripting languages in Web development, and C in embedded software.  
The source code of a program is written in one or more languages that are intelligible to programmers, rather than machine code, which is directly executed by the central processing unit.  
Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems.  
They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones.  
Compiling takes the source code from a low-level programming language and converts it into machine code.  
Transpiling on the other hand, takes the source-code from a high-level programming language and converts it into bytecode.  
Relatedly, software engineering combines engineering techniques and principles with software development.  
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.  
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.  
Programming languages are essential for software development.  
The purpose of programming is to find a sequence of instructions that will automate the performance of a task (which can be as complex as an operating system) on a computer, often for solving a given problem.  
 Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape.  
 Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages.  
In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages.