There are many approaches to the Software development process.  
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.  
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To produce machine code, the source code must either be compiled or transpiled.  
Trade-offs from this ideal involve finding enough programmers who know the language to build a team, the availability of compilers for that language, and the efficiency with which programs written in a given language execute.  
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.  
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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.  
Relatedly, software engineering combines engineering techniques and principles with software development.  
However, with the concept of the stored-program computer introduced in 1949, both programs and data were stored and manipulated in the same way in computer memory.  
A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
 Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms).  
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.  
Unreadable code often leads to bugs, inefficiencies, and duplicated code.  
 Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications.