Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use.  
Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards.  
Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process.  
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.  
Programming languages are essential for software development.  
Later a control panel (plug board) added to his 1906 Type I Tabulator allowed it to be programmed for different jobs, and by the late 1940s, unit record equipment such as the IBM 602 and IBM 604, were programmed by control panels in a similar way, as were the first electronic computers.  
To produce machine code, the source code must either be compiled or transpiled.  
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.  
This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs.  
Relatedly, software engineering combines engineering techniques and principles with software development.  
Proficient programming thus usually requires expertise in several different subjects, including knowledge of the application domain, specialized algorithms, and formal logic.  
Unreadable code often leads to bugs, inefficiencies, and duplicated code.  
  
Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use.  
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.