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.  
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).  
It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones.  
Compiling takes the source code from a low-level programming language and converts it into machine code.  
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.  
The Unified Modeling Language (UML) is a notation used for both the OOAD and MDA.  
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.  
In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them.  
Assembly languages were soon developed that let the programmer specify instruction in a text format (e.g., ADD X, TOTAL), with abbreviations for each operation code and meaningful names for specifying addresses.  
 Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages.  
Programming languages are essential for software development.  
 Popular modeling techniques include Object-Oriented Analysis and Design (OOAD) and Model-Driven Architecture (MDA).  
To produce machine code, the source code must either be compiled or transpiled.  
Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment.  
 Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties.