Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability.  
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.  
Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem.  
Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected.  
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).  
For example, when a bug in a compiler can make it crash when parsing some large source file, a simplification of the test case that results in only few lines from the original source file can be sufficient to reproduce the same crash.  
Relatedly, software engineering combines engineering techniques and principles with software development.  
 Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties.  
However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837.  
Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards.  
 Popular modeling techniques include Object-Oriented Analysis and Design (OOAD) and Model-Driven Architecture (MDA).  
They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones.  
One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis.  
Many programmers use forms of Agile software development where the various stages of formal software development are more integrated together into short cycles that take a few weeks rather than years.