Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems.  
In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages.  
It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones.  
Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation.  
For this purpose, algorithms are classified into orders using so-called Big O notation, which expresses resource use, such as execution time or memory consumption, in terms of the size of an input.  
The Unified Modeling Language (UML) is a notation used for both the OOAD and MDA.  
Trial-and-error/divide-and-conquer is needed: the programmer will try to remove some parts of the original test case and check if the problem still exists.  
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.  
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.  
Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem.  
Proficient programming thus usually requires expertise in several different subjects, including knowledge of the application domain, specialized algorithms, and formal logic.  
One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis.  
  
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Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability.