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).  
However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837.  
Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected.  
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.  
Expert programmers are familiar with a variety of well-established algorithms and their respective complexities and use this knowledge to choose algorithms that are best suited to the circumstances.  
Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem.  
Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use.  
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.  
Their jobs usually involve:  
 Although programming has been presented in the media as a somewhat mathematical subject, some research shows that good programmers have strong skills in natural human languages, and that learning to code is similar to learning a foreign language.  
They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones.  
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.  
Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards.  
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.  
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.  
 Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties.