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.  
A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
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.  
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Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected.  
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.  
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.  
Integrated development environments (IDEs) aim to integrate all such help.  
Unreadable code often leads to bugs, inefficiencies, and duplicated code.  
Also, those involved with software development may at times engage in reverse engineering, which is the practice of seeking to understand an existing program so as to re-implement its function in some way.  
However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837.