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.  
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.  
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.  
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.  
Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem.  
They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones.  
Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use.  
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.  
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.  
Unreadable code often leads to bugs, inefficiencies, and duplicated code.  
A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
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).  
In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them.