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.  
There are many approaches to the Software development process.  
Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use.  
Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem.  
It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones.  
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.  
Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process.  
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.  
Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation.  
Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems.  
The source code of a program is written in one or more languages that are intelligible to programmers, rather than machine code, which is directly executed by the central processing unit.  
 Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape.  
Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability.  
A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
 New languages are generally designed around the syntax of a prior language with new functionality added, (for example C++ adds object-orientation to C, and Java adds memory management and bytecode to C++, but as a result, loses efficiency and the ability for low-level manipulation).