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.  
Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use.  
Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability.  
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.  
Relatedly, software engineering combines engineering techniques and principles with software development.  
To produce machine code, the source code must either be compiled or transpiled.  
As early as the 9th century, a programmable music sequencer was invented by the Persian Banu Musa brothers, who described an automated mechanical flute player in the Book of Ingenious Devices.  
However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837.  
FORTRAN, the first widely used high-level language to have a functional implementation, came out in 1957, and many other languages were soon developed—in particular, COBOL aimed at commercial data processing, and Lisp for computer research.  
The Unified Modeling Language (UML) is a notation used for both the OOAD and MDA.  
Languages form an approximate spectrum from "low-level" to "high-level"; "low-level" languages are typically more machine-oriented and faster to execute, whereas "high-level" languages are more abstract and easier to use but execute less quickly.  
Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability.  
Integrated development environments (IDEs) aim to integrate all such help.  
 Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications.  
 Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties.