Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected.  
By the late 1960s, data storage devices and computer terminals became inexpensive enough that programs could be created by typing directly into the computers.  
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.  
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.  
To produce machine code, the source code must either be compiled or transpiled.  
Programming involves tasks such as analysis, generating algorithms, profiling algorithms' accuracy and resource consumption, and the implementation of algorithms (usually in a particular programming language, commonly referred to as coding).  
This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs.  
Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem.  
Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation.  
Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment.  
Programming languages are essential for software development.  
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.  
Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards.  
It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones.  
Relatedly, software engineering combines engineering techniques and principles with software development.