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.  
Unreadable code often leads to bugs, inefficiencies, and duplicated code.  
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.  
However, readability is more than just programming style.  
Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem.  
To produce machine code, the source code must either be compiled or transpiled.  
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By the late 1960s, data storage devices and computer terminals became inexpensive enough that programs could be created by typing directly into the computers.  
Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem.  
The purpose of programming is to find a sequence of instructions that will automate the performance of a task (which can be as complex as an operating system) on a computer, often for solving a given problem.  
Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process.  
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.  
Programming languages are essential for software development.  
However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837.  
Programming languages are essential for software development.