Provided the functions in a library follow the appropriate run-time conventions (e.g., method of passing arguments), then these functions may be written in any other language.  
Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards.  
This is interpreted into machine code.  
It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability.  
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.  
Compiling takes the source code from a low-level programming language and converts it into machine code.  
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 1206, the Arab engineer Al-Jazari invented a programmable drum machine where a musical mechanical automaton could be made to play different rhythms and drum patterns, via pegs and cams.  
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.  
A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones.  
 Programmable devices have existed for centuries.  
In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them.  
Provided the functions in a library follow the appropriate run-time conventions (e.g., method of passing arguments), then these functions may be written in any other language.  
 High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware.