A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
Expert programmers are familiar with a variety of well-established algorithms and their respective complexities and use this knowledge to choose algorithms that are best suited to the circumstances.  
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.  
Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use.  
This is interpreted into machine code.  
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.  
Later a control panel (plug board) added to his 1906 Type I Tabulator allowed it to be programmed for different jobs, and by the late 1940s, unit record equipment such as the IBM 602 and IBM 604, were programmed by control panels in a similar way, as were the first electronic computers.  
Programming languages are essential for software development.  
Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment.  
One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis.  
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.  
Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem.  
 Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation.  
Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability.  
 Following a consistent programming style often helps readability.