It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones.  
To produce machine code, the source code must either be compiled or transpiled.  
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.  
Unreadable code often leads to bugs, inefficiencies, and duplicated 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.  
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.  
Compiling takes the source code from a low-level programming language and converts it into machine code.  
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.  
For example, when a bug in a compiler can make it crash when parsing some large source file, a simplification of the test case that results in only few lines from the original source file can be sufficient to reproduce the same crash.  
There are many approaches to the Software development process.  
In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages.  
However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837.  
One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis.  
He gave the first description of cryptanalysis by frequency analysis, the earliest code-breaking algorithm.  
 Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages.