Compiling takes the source code from a low-level programming language and converts it into machine code.  
Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability.  
Transpiling on the other hand, takes the source-code from a high-level programming language and converts it into bytecode.  
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.  
Assembly languages were soon developed that let the programmer specify instruction in a text format (e.g., ADD X, TOTAL), with abbreviations for each operation code and meaningful names for specifying addresses.  
Languages form an approximate spectrum from "low-level" to "high-level"; "low-level" languages are typically more machine-oriented and faster to execute, whereas "high-level" languages are more abstract and easier to use but execute less quickly.  
Proficient programming thus usually requires expertise in several different subjects, including knowledge of the application domain, specialized algorithms, and formal logic.  
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).  
This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs.  
A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards.  
Relatedly, software engineering combines engineering techniques and principles with software development.  
  
 Computer programming is the process of performing particular computations (or more generally, accomplishing specific computing results), usually by designing and building executable computer programs.  
 Debugging is often done with IDEs. Standalone debuggers like GDB are also used, and these often provide less of a visual environment, usually using a command line.  
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.