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.  
They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones.  
However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837.  
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.  
However, with the concept of the stored-program computer introduced in 1949, both programs and data were stored and manipulated in the same way in computer memory.  
Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem.  
Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems.  
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).  
However, because an assembly language is little more than a different notation for a machine language, two machines with different instruction sets also have different assembly languages.  
He gave the first description of cryptanalysis by frequency analysis, the earliest code-breaking algorithm.  
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Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment.  
As early as the 9th century, a programmable music sequencer was invented by the Persian Banu Musa brothers, who described an automated mechanical flute player in the Book of Ingenious Devices.  
 Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation.