For example, COBOL is still strong in corporate data centers often on large mainframe computers, Fortran in engineering applications, scripting languages in Web development, and C in embedded software.  
Programming languages are essential for software development.  
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.  
They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones.  
Integrated development environments (IDEs) aim to integrate all such help.  
To produce machine code, the source code must either be compiled or transpiled.  
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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.  
Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem.  
There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those tasks.  
 Computer programmers are those who write computer software.  
There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those tasks.  
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.  
By the late 1960s, data storage devices and computer terminals became inexpensive enough that programs could be created by typing directly into the computers.  
 Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries.