In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages.  
Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment.  
Unreadable code often leads to bugs, inefficiencies, and duplicated code.  
Programming languages are essential for software development.  
One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis.  
In 1206, the Arab engineer Al-Jazari invented a programmable drum machine where a musical mechanical automaton could be made to play different rhythms and drum patterns, via pegs and cams.  
Integrated development environments (IDEs) aim to integrate all such help.  
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.  
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.  
Provided the functions in a library follow the appropriate run-time conventions (e.g., method of passing arguments), then these functions may be written in any other language.  
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).  
 The academic field and the engineering practice of computer programming are both largely concerned with discovering and implementing the most efficient algorithms for a given class of problems.  
Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem.  
They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones.  
Compiling takes the source code from a low-level programming language and converts it into machine code.