Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected.  
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.  
Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards.  
Expert programmers are familiar with a variety of well-established algorithms and their respective complexities and use this knowledge to choose algorithms that are best suited to the circumstances.  
Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems.  
To produce machine code, the source code must either be compiled or transpiled.  
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A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
Relatedly, software engineering combines engineering techniques and principles with 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.  
It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability.  
Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability.  
Transpiling on the other hand, takes the source-code from a high-level programming language and converts it into bytecode.  
A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
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.