A history of programming languages

- 1951 - Regional Assembly Language
- 1952 - Autocode
- 1954 - FORTRAN (FORmula TRANslation) ← The granddaddy of scientific languages
- 1954 - IPL (forerunner to LISP)
- 1955 - FLOW-MATIC (forerunner to COBOL)
- 1957 - COMTRAN (forerunner to COBOL)
- 1958 - LISP ← Commonly used for robotics (have a good supply of parentheses ready ;-)
- 1958 - ALGOL 58
- 1959 - FACT (forerunner to COBOL)
- 1959 - COBOL ← Designed for business applications
- 1962 - APL ← Commonly used for robotics
- 1962 - Simula
- 1962 - SNOBOL (*StriNg Oriented and symBOlic Language*)
- 1963 - CPL (forerunner to C)
- 1964 - BASIC ← May cause permanent brain damage ;-)
- 1964 - PL/I
- 1967 - BCPL (forerunner to C)
- 1968 - Logo
- 1970 - Pascal ← Beautiful language designed to teach good programming
- 1970 - Forth ← Stack-based language similar to Reverse Polish Notation on HP calculators
- 1972 - C ← Gives god-like powers to the programmer. Later versions still rule the world (C++)
- 1972 - Smalltalk ←Was supposed to underpin the "new world" of programming.
- 1972 - Prolog
- 1973 - ML
- 1975 - Scheme
- 1978 - SQL (initially only a query language, later extended with programming constructs)
- 1980 - C++ (as C with classes, name changed in July 1983)
- 1983 - Objective-C
- 1983 - Ada ← The government tries to create its own language. No longer required for all contracts.
- 1984 - Common Lisp
- 1984 – MATLAB (MATrix LABorotory) Development started in the late 70s, re-written in C in 1984
- 1985 - Eiffel
- 1986 - Erlang
- 1987 - Perl ← Still a popular scripting (interpreted) language with powerful text-handling capability.
- 1988 - Tcl
- 1989 - FL (Backus)
- 1991 - Python ← A popular interpreted language
- 1995 - Java Interpreted language created by Sun Microsystems (Oracle), syntax based on C/C++
- 2001 - C# ← Microsoft decides to improve C++ and make an interpreter
- 2001 - Visual Basic .NET
- 2002 - F#
- 2003 - Scala
- 2003 - Factor
- 2006 - Windows Power Shell
- 2007 - Clojure (a dialect of LISP)
- 2007 - Groovy
- 2009 - Go ← Google decides it needs its own language. Broadly based on C.