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First published 1984 by
Higher and Further Education Division
MACMILLAN PUBLISHERS LTD
London and Basingstoke
Companies and representatives
throughout the world

ISBN 978-1-349-06959-0
DOI 10.1007/978-1-349-06957-6

ISBN 978-1-349-06957-6 (eBook)

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Preface

Many microcomputer systems, home and business ones, are based on Zilog's Z80 microprocessor, one of the most commonly used microprocessors.

All microcomputer systems have the facility to run programs written in one or more high-level languages such as BASIC, PASCAL, COBOL, FORTRAN and FORTH. However, sometimes it is necessary (because of speed or memory restrictions) or desirable to run programs written in the assembly language of a microcomputer system. If the microcomputer system is based on a Z80 microprocessor then the Z80 assembly language must be used.

This book covers all of the facilities provided by the Z80 assembly language, starting with the simple facilities and building on them step-by-step to gradually include the more complex facilities.

Learning a programming language is like learning a foreign language - you need plenty of practical experience. At the end of each chapter there is a practical program for you to do. Programs from some of the chapters are used in later practicals so that you can develop quite substantial programs, relatively easily. The practicals have been carefully chosen to be interesting and visually rewarding - all practicals except the first produce some form of output on the display.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

My thanks to Leicester Polytechnic for allowing me to use their computer facilities for the development of programs and production of the book, and to Mark Folker for his thorough checking of the text and many suggested improvements. Also, I wish to thank my wife, Susan, for her support in many ways, particularly in the typing of the text using a word processor.

Roger Hutton