COBOL

An Introduction

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COBOL

An Introduction

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Preface

This text is intended as an introduction to the COBOL programming language (and program design) for students who have little or no previous programming experience.

It will be particularly useful for those taking the BTEC National in Computer Studies or City and Guilds exams.

As far as possible, the book has been arranged so that each lesson is short and covers only one topic. Easy topics are near the beginning and harder ones near the end.

It is intended that students should start practical programming exercises as soon as possible and you should be able to start writing simple programs from page 5.

There are numerous examples and exercises, and revision problems appear at intervals. Try to answer all the questions and then refresh your memory by looking back to the relevant lesson.

Six worked Programming Projects are provided. As you come to each one, try to produce the programs yourself before looking at the worked examples.

It is important to try out all the practical examples on a computer and to attempt all the exercises. Just as with any language you learn, programming languages become easy with constant use.

Acknowledgements

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