

Modula-2 is a simple yet powerful programming language that is suitable for a wide variety of applications. It is based on Pascal, a successful programming language that was introduced in 1970 by Niklaus Wirth. During the 1970's Pascal became the most widely taught programming language and it gained acceptance in science and industry. In 1980 Dr. Wirth released the Modula-2 programming language. Modula-2 is an evolution of Pascal. It improves on the successes of Pascal while adding the MODULE - a tool for expressing the relations between the major parts of programs. In addition Modula-2 contains low-level features for systems programming and coroutines for concurrent programming. Programming languages are important because they are used to express ideas. Some programming languages are so limited that certain ideas can't be easily expressed. For example languages that lack floating point arithmetic are inappropriate for scientific computations. Languages such as Basic and Fortran that lack recursion are unsuitable for text processing or systems programming. Sometimes a programming language is useable for a certain application but it is far from ideal. A good example is the difficulty of writing large programs in pure Pascal. Pascal is a poor language for large jobs because it lacks facilities for partitioning a program into separate pieces that can be developed independently.

