

## The Programmer's Alphabet

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 To the tune of "Sweet Betsy from Pike"

C                    G7            C  
 A is for ASCII, our Alphabet's name  
 C                    G7  
 B is the Bugs, for which we get the blame.  
 C                    F            C  
 C the Computer, which never works right, and  
 C                    G7            C  
 D is Debugging, the rest of the night.  
 E is the Elegant problems we're set  
 F is old Fortran we try to Forget.  
 G is the GOTO we're trying to kill, and  
 H is the Hacker who uses it still.

C                    G7            C  
 Programming, programming, all through the night,  
 C                    G7  
 We're stuck here until our new program works right.  
 C                    F            C  
 Programming, programming, isn't it fun?  
 C                    G7            C  
 The maintainance starts when debugging is done!

I is the Input we handle with care  
 J is the Jump to nobody knows where  
 K is the Kludge with which we got by, and  
 L is for Later to fix it we'll try.

M is the Memory, dropping a bit,  
 N the New version, that doesn't quite fit.  
 O is the Op'rating system we buy, and  
 P is the Patch to make our programs fly.

Q is for QWERTY, of typewriter lore,  
 R is the RAM that we used to call core.  
 S is the Standard we'll follow some day, and  
 T is the Teletype, banging away.

U is the User, that Unhappy man,  
 V is the Vengeance he wreaks when he can.  
 W is Work, it's the manager's call, and  
 X is the Xerox machine down the hall.

Y is the Yes you reply by mistake, and  
 Z is the Zeros all over your tape.  
 There may be more verses they wanted to send,  
 But they've all gotten clobbered, so this is the end.

*no chorus after last verse*

Loosely inspired by various sailors' alphabet songs.

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