The proliferation of modern programming languages (all of which seem to have stolen countless features from one another) sometimes makes it difficult to remember what language you're currently using. This guide is offered as a public service to help programmers who find themselves in such dilemmas. It offers language specific techniques for performing a common programming task.

C: Shoot yourself in the foot.

C++: You accidentally create a dozen instances of yourself and shoot them all in the foot. Providing some emergency medical assistance is impossible since you can't tell which are bitwise copies, and which are "just point at others" and saying, "That's me, over there".

Fortran: You shoot yourself in each toe, iteratively, until you run out of bullets, then you reload and shoot yourself in the next foot and repeat. If you run out of bullets, you continue anyways because you have no exception handling ability.

Modula2: After realizing that you can't actually accomplish anything in this language, you shoot yourself in the head.

Cobol: Using a COLT 45 HANDGUN, AIM gun at LEG.FOOT. THEN ARM.HAND.FINGER on HANDGUN.TRIGGER and SQUEEZE. THEN return HANDGUN to HOLSTER. CHECK whether shoelace needs to be retied.

LISP: You shoot yourself in the appendage, which holds the gun with
        which you shoot yourself in the appendage which holds the gun with
        which you shoot yourself in the appendage which holds the gun with
        which you shoot yourself in the appendage which holds the gun with
        which you shoot yourself in the appendage which holds the gun with ...

Basic: Shoot yourself in the foot with a water pistol. On big systems, continue until the entire lower body is waterlogged.

Forth: Foot in yourself Shoot.

APL: You shoot yourself in the foot then spend the rest of the day figuring out how to do it in fewer characters.

Pascal: The compiler won't let you shoot yourself in the foot.

Snobol: If you succeed, shoot yourself in the left foot. If you fail shoot yourself in the right foot.

Concurrent Euclid: You shoot yourself in somebody else's foot.

HyperTalk: Put first bullet into foot left leg of you. Answer the result.

Motif: You spend days writing a UIL description of your foot, the trajectory, the bullet, and the intricate scrollwork on the ivory handles of the gun. When you finally get around to pulling the trigger, the gun jams.

UNIX: % ls foot_c foot.h foot.o toe.c toe.o % rm *.0 rm:.o: No Such file or directory % ls %

Paradox: Not only can you shoot yourself in the foot, your users can too.

Revelation: You'll be able to shoot yourself in the foot just as soon as you figure out what these bullets are for.

Visual Basic: You'll shoot yourself in the foot, but you'll have so much fun doing it that you won't care.

Prolog: You tell your program that you want to be shot in the foot. The program figures how to do it, but the syntax won't allow it to explain.

370-JCL: You send your foot down to MIS with a 4000-page document explaining how you want it to be shot, then it comes back deep-fried.

Ada: After correctly packaging your foot, you attempt to concurrently to load the gun, pull the trigger, scream, and shoot yourself in the foot. When you try however, you discover that your foot is of the wrong type.

Assembly: You try to shoot yourself in the foot only to discover you must re-invent the gun, the bullet, and your foot.

AREXX: You tell gun task to shoot your foot. It misses.