

These debugging tips will help you keep moving when you get stuck!

Work to Avoid Mistakes



Read the directions.



What is the goal of the puzzle?



Take it slow and go one step at a time.



Can you talk about the problem in your own words?



Were you given any code to start?

- What does it do?
- Why do you think it's there?



Debugging



Look for problems each step of the way.



Describe what was supposed to happen.



Describe what is going wrong.



Does the difference between what was supposed to happen and what did happen give you any clues?



Fix one thing at a time, then describe how the result changed.



Try leaving “breadcrumbs” in your program. You can put clues inside your code (like having your program “say” something) to let you know when each chunk runs.



Try doing each task as its own chunk, then put all of the pieces together at the end so it is easier to see what each thing does.



Talk to a friend. Maybe one of your classmates can help you figure out where your plan goes awry.



Try at least three ways of fixing problems before you ask for help.

