

# INTERMEDIATE CODE IN A VIRTUAL MACHINE

Different designs of computer have different versions of machine code, so different instructions mean different things. This would mean every computer would need a different compiler for each high level language.

Alternatively a compiler could be used to do most the translation, and end up with a program which is close to all the machine codes. This is the intermediate code.

Intermediate code is halfway between the high level language and machine code. It is not machine specific but it is now translated into the particular machine code needed by an interpreter specific to that machine.

This means the program written in a high level language will be able to run on different machines, and is portable.

