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Thread: [The Original "Bug": When a Literal Moth Crashed a Computer](#)

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Hey everyone,

We've all spent hours (or days) hunting down a "bug" in our code or system. But did you know that the very first computer bug wasn't a logic error or a syntax mistake? It was a literal insect.

Back on September 9, 1947, engineers were working on the Harvard Mark II computer (a massive electromechanical machine). The system started acting up, and the team couldn't figure out why.

After opening up one of the hardware relays, they found the culprit: A moth had flown into the machine and gotten smashed inside Relay #70, short-circuiting the system.

The "Debugging" Moment:

The Fix: They pulled the moth out with a pair of tweezers.

The Logbook: The lead operator, the legendary Grace Hopper, taped the moth into the team's official logbook with the entry: "First actual case of bug being found."

The Legacy: While the word "bug" had been used in engineering before, this specific event popularized the terms "bug" and "debugging" in the world of computing.

Imagine if fixing our modern-day bugs was as simple as pulling a moth out of a motherboard!

What's the weirdest hardware or software bug you've ever encountered? Let's hear your horror stories.