Refactoring is when you make small changes to code that already exists. You change it a little at a time so that there is less of a chance that you will break it in a big way. This is used to simplify code and make it easier to read. These small changes do not change the code function, just the factoring, or small parts of complex code. Refactoring helps to eliminate bugs, some that you may not have even known were there. Of course, if it is not done right, it can break the function of the code by introducing new bugs. The two main benefits of refactoring are (1) that it is easier to find and fix bugs and (2) it makes the code more flexible and easier to extend. It is important to test the code before refactoring it so that you will know whether any bugs you come across were a result of the initial code, or the refactoring. This testing should be continuous, meaning you will have a cycle of testing, making a small change, testing, making a small change, and so on.