

The most basic definition of a string is that it is an array of characters. This definition is also true for see but there is a slight difference between a string and a character array, i.e., a string ends with a special character called the null character (`\0`). This character indicates the termination of a string. A string is declared in a very similar manner to a one-dimensional array,

```
char str_name[size];
```

It has three main parts,

- `char`: as string is an array of characters its data type has to be `char`.
- `str_name`: It must be a valid name and should follow all the principles of declaring a variable name.
- `size`: It is a constant value and defines the maximum capacity of a string.

Initialization of a string is similar to that of any other data type like `int` and `float`,

```
Char str [50];
printf("\nEnter the string: ");
scanf("%s",str);
```

NOTE:

The initialization will vary if we are trying to input a sentence. The problem is that `scanf` will stop reading whenever a white space or a newline or end of line (EOF) is reached. To solve this problem we have `gets` which does not stop reading when a white space is encountered. Hence whenever we want to input a sentence we will use `gets`.

Although string is an array we do not need to use any for loop for declaring it as `scanf` has an access specifier for strings. The only difference between the initialization of `int` and `float` and that of string is that we do not have to use `&` for strings. The reason is that, unlike other data types, when we use `str` it is as a reference to the memory location which was the use of `&`.

In C we have some predefined functions related to strings. To use them we have to include the header file `string.h` in the beginning like this,

```
include<string.h>
```

The following is a table of these functions:

Function	What It Does
<code>strcmp(char str1, char str2)</code>	Compares <code>str1</code> and <code>str2</code> in a case-sensitive way. If the strings match, the function returns 0.
<code>strncmp(char str1, char str2,n)</code>	Compares the first <code>n</code> characters of <code>str1</code> and <code>str2</code> , returning 0 if the given number of characters match.
<code>strcasecmp(char str1, char str2)</code>	It is similar to <code>strcmp</code> the only difference is that it ignores the case.
<code>strncasecmp(char str1, char str2,n)</code>	It is similar to <code>strncmp</code> the only difference is that it ignores the case.
<code>strcat(char str1, char str2)</code>	Appends one string to another, creating a single string out of two and it is stored in <code>str1</code> . For example, <code>strcat("for", "example")</code> results in <code>forexample</code> .
<code>strncat(char str1, char str2,n)</code>	Appends <code>n</code> number of characters from <code>str2</code> to the end of <code>str1</code> . For example, <code>strcat("for", "example",3)</code> results in <code>forexa</code> .
<code>strchr(char str1, char c)</code>	Searches for <code>c</code> within <code>str1</code> . The function returns <code>c</code> 's position from the start of <code>str1</code> as a pointer.
<code>strrchr(char str1, char str2)</code>	It is similar to <code>strchr</code> but it returns the character's position from the end of the string as a pointer.
<code>strstr(char str1, char str2)</code>	Searches for <code>str2</code> inside <code>str1</code> . The function returns a pointer to <code>str2</code> 's location if it is found.

strnstr(char str1, char str2, n)	Searches for str2 within the first n characters of the str1. The function returns a pointer to str2's location if it is found.
strcpy(char str1, char str2)	Copies str2 to str1.
strncpy(char str1, char str2)	Copies n number of characters from str2 to str1.
strrev(char str1)	Reverses str1 and stores in str1 itself.
strlen(char str1)	Returns the length of str1, not counting the NULL character at the end of the string.

PROGRAMS

Q. Write a program to take a word as an input from the user and check if it is palindrome or not.

<https://youtu.be/Bd45YMcChO4>

Q. Write a program to find the first occurrence of a word in a sentence where both the word and the sentence is entered by the user.

<https://youtu.be/uW0rj9wGqM4>

QUESTIONS ON STRINGS (PLS DO SOLVE THEM): - <https://youtu.be/5TDOzO7H5DI>