

**NAME**

**strstr**, **strcasestr**, **strnstr** - locate a substring in a string

**LIBRARY**

Standard C Library (libc, -lc)

**SYNOPSIS**

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

```
char *
```

```
strstr(const char *big, const char *little);
```

```
char *
```

```
strcasestr(const char *big, const char *little);
```

```
char *
```

```
strnstr(const char *big, const char *little, size_t len);
```

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

```
#include <xlocale.h>
```

```
char *
```

```
strcasestr_l(const char *big, const char *little, locale_t loc);
```

**DESCRIPTION**

The **strstr()** function locates the first occurrence of the null-terminated string *little* in the null-terminated string *big*.

The **strcasestr()** function is similar to **strstr()**, but ignores the case of both strings.

The **strcasestr\_l()** function does the same as **strcasestr()** but takes an explicit locale rather than using the current locale.

The **strnstr()** function locates the first occurrence of the null-terminated string *little* in the string *big*, where not more than *len* characters are searched. Characters that appear after a '\0' character are not searched. Since the **strnstr()** function is a FreeBSD specific API, it should only be used when portability is not a concern.

**RETURN VALUES**

If *little* is an empty string, *big* is returned; if *little* occurs nowhere in *big*, NULL is returned; otherwise a

pointer to the first character of the first occurrence of *little* is returned.

## EXAMPLES

The following sets the pointer *ptr* to the "Bar Baz" portion of *largestring*:

```
const char *largestring = "Foo Bar Baz";
const char *smallstring = "Bar";
char *ptr;

ptr = strstr(largestring, smallstring);
```

The following sets the pointer *ptr* to NULL, because only the first 4 characters of *largestring* are searched:

```
const char *largestring = "Foo Bar Baz";
const char *smallstring = "Bar";
char *ptr;

ptr = strnstr(largestring, smallstring, 4);
```

## SEE ALSO

memchr(3), memmem(3), strchr(3), strcspn(3), strpbrk(3), strrchr(3), strsep(3), strspn(3), strtok(3), wcsstr(3)

## STANDARDS

The **strstr()** function conforms to ISO/IEC 9899:1990 ("ISO C90").

## HISTORY

The **strnstr()** function was introduced by FreeBSD 4.5 and is non-standard.