NAME

strcmp, **strncmp** - compare strings

LIBRARY

Standard C Library (libc, -lc)

SYNOPSIS

#include <string.h>

int
strcmp(*const char *s1*, *const char *s2*);

int
strncmp(*const char *s1*, *const char *s2*, *size_t len*);

DESCRIPTION

The **strcmp**() and **strncmp**() functions lexicographically compare the null-terminated strings *s1* and *s2*.

The **strncmp**() function compares not more than *len* characters. Because **strncmp**() is designed for comparing strings rather than binary data, characters that appear after a '\0' character are not compared.

RETURN VALUES

The **strcmp**() and **strncmp**() functions return an integer greater than, equal to, or less than 0, according as the string *s1* is greater than, equal to, or less than the string *s2*. The comparison is done using unsigned characters, so that '\200' is greater than '\0'.

SEE ALSO

bcmp(3), memcmp(3), strcasecmp(3), strcoll(3), strxfrm(3), wcscmp(3)

STANDARDS

The **strcmp**() and **strncmp**() functions conform to ISO/IEC 9899:1990 ("ISO C90").

HISTORY

The **strcmp**() function first appeared in the Programmer's Workbench (PWB/UNIX) and was ported to Version 7 AT&T UNIX; **strncmp**() first appeared in Version 7 AT&T UNIX.