

C library function - strcmp()

Description

The C library function **int strcmp(const char *str1, const char *str2)** compares the string pointed to, by **str1** to the string pointed to by **str2**.

Declaration

Following is the declaration for strcmp() function.

```
int strcmp(const char *str1, const char *str2)
```

Parameters

- **str1** – This is the first string to be compared.
- **str2** – This is the second string to be compared.

Return Value

This function return values that are as follows –

- if Return value < 0 then it indicates str1 is less than str2.
- if Return value > 0 then it indicates str2 is less than str1.
- if Return value = 0 then it indicates str1 is equal to str2.

Example

The following example shows the usage of strcmp() function.

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

```
int main () {
    char str1[15];
    char str2[15];
    int ret;

    strcpy(str1, "abcdef");
    strcpy(str2, "ABCDEF");
```

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```
ret = strcmp(str1, str2);

if(ret < 0) {
    printf("str1 is less than str2");
} else if(ret > 0) {
    printf("str2 is less than str1");
} else {
    printf("str1 is equal to str2");
}

return(0);
}
```

Let us compile and run the above program that will produce the following result –

```
str2 is less than str1
```