

C library function - strerror()

Description

The C library function **char *strerror(int errnum)** searches an internal array for the error number **errnum** and returns a pointer to an error message string. The error strings produced by **strerror** depend on the developing platform and compiler.

Declaration

Following is the declaration for strerror() function.

```
char *strerror(int errnum)
```

Parameters

- **errnum** – This is the error number, usually **errno**.

Return Value

This function returns a pointer to the error string describing error **errnum**.

Example

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

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

int main () {
    FILE *fp;

    fp = fopen("file.txt","r");
    if( fp == NULL ) {
        printf("Error: %s\n", strerror(errno));
    }

    return(0);
}
```

[Live Demo](#)

Let us compile and run the above program that will produce the following result because we are trying to open a file which does not exist –

Error: No such file or directory