C library function - perror()

Description

The C library function **void perror(const char *str)** prints a descriptive error message to stderr. First the string **str** is printed, followed by a colon then a space.

Declaration

Following is the declaration for perror() function.

```
void perror(const char *str)
```

Parameters

- ▫ **str** − This is the C string containing a custom message to be printed before the error message itself.

Return Value

This function does not return any value.

Example

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

Live Demo

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main () {
   FILE *fp;

   /* first rename if there is any file */
   rename("file.txt", "newfile.txt");

   /* now let's try to open same file */
   fp = fopen("file.txt", "r");
   if( fp == NULL ) {
      perror("Error: ");
      return(-1);
   }
   fclose(fp);
```

```
        return(0);
}
```

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
```