

NAME

stpncpy – copy a fixed-size string, returning a pointer to its end

SYNOPSIS

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

```
char *stpncpy(char *dest, const char *src, size_t n);
```

Feature Test Macro Requirements for glibc (see **feature_test_macros(7)**):

stpncpy():

Since glibc 2.10:

```
_POSIX_C_SOURCE >= 200809L
```

Before glibc 2.10:

```
_GNU_SOURCE
```

DESCRIPTION

The **stpncpy()** function copies at most *n* characters from the string pointed to by *src*, including the terminating null byte ('\0'), to the array pointed to by *dest*. Exactly *n* characters are written at *dest*. If the length *strlen(src)* is smaller than *n*, the remaining characters in the array pointed to by *dest* are filled with null bytes ('\0'). If the length *strlen(src)* is greater than or equal to *n*, the string pointed to by *dest* will not be null-terminated.

The strings may not overlap.

The programmer must ensure that there is room for at least *n* characters at *dest*.

RETURN VALUE

stpncpy() returns a pointer to the terminating null byte in *dest*, or, if *dest* is not null-terminated, *dest+n*.

ATTRIBUTES

For an explanation of the terms used in this section, see **attributes(7)**.

Interface	Attribute	Value
stpncpy()	Thread safety	MT-Safe

CONFORMING TO

This function was added to POSIX.1-2008. Before that, it was a GNU extension. It first appeared in version 1.07 of the GNU C library in 1993.

SEE ALSO

strncpy(3), **wcpncpy(3)**

COLOPHON

This page is part of release 5.02 of the Linux *man-pages* project. A description of the project, information about reporting bugs, and the latest version of this page, can be found at <https://www.kernel.org/doc/man-pages/>.