

**NAME**

PCRE - Perl-compatible regular expressions

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <pcre.h>

int pcre_get_substring(const char *subject, int *ovector,
    int stringcount, int stringnumber,
    const char **stringptr);

int pcre16_get_substring(PCRE_SPTR16 subject, int *ovector,
    int stringcount, int stringnumber,
    PCRE_SPTR16 *stringptr);

int pcre32_get_substring(PCRE_SPTR32 subject, int *ovector,
    int stringcount, int stringnumber,
    PCRE_SPTR32 *stringptr);
```

**DESCRIPTION**

This is a convenience function for extracting a captured substring. The arguments are:

*subject*     Subject that has been successfully matched  
*ovector*     Offset vector that **pcre[16|32]\_exec()** used  
*stringcount*   Value returned by **pcre[16|32]\_exec()**  
*stringnumber*   Number of the required substring  
*stringptr*     Where to put the string pointer

The memory in which the substring is placed is obtained by calling **pcre[16|32]\_malloc()**. The convenience function **pcre[16|32]\_free\_substring()** can be used to free it when it is no longer needed. The yield of the function is the length of the substring, **PCRE\_ERROR\_NOMEMORY** if sufficient memory could not be obtained, or **PCRE\_ERROR\_NOSUBSTRING** if the string number is invalid.

There is a complete description of the PCRE native API in the **pcreapi** page and a description of the POSIX API in the **pcreposix** page.