

# STRING.c

We just saw `strlen` as an example of a function that comes in the string library.

Let's start to take more of these library functions out for a spin. So we are not relying only on the built ins that we saw last week.

If I create a file called "string.h" I need to include `cs50.h` ← header ← `stdio.h` and this new thing `string.h` will



And then, in the program string.c, suppose for the sake of discussion, that I didn't know about  $\%s$  for print or heck maybe early on there was no  $\%s$  format code.

And so there was no easy way to print strings well, at least if you know that strings are just arrays of character, we could use  $\%c$  as a workaround, a solution to that, sort of, contrived problem.

→ So we can ask for a string  $s$  by using `get_string` and I'll ask the user for some input. And let me print out (output).

In pseudocode (or in English) what's the gist of how we could solve this problem, printing out the string  $s$  on the screen without using  $\%s$ ?

How to make my program to uppercase everything to capital H, capital I?

ASCII chart

↓  
lowercase a is 97

" b " 98

" c " 99

→ capital A is 65

→ capital B is 66

→ capital C is 67

97  
- 65

there's a difference of 32

So if I go from uppercase to lowercase,



I can do  $65 \oplus 32$ , will give me 97 and that actually works out across the board for everything else (a, b, c, d, ...).

Characters are just binary representation of numbers.

**TOUPPER**  $\Rightarrow$  there's a function that would literally do the uppercasing thing for me, so I don't have to get into the weeds of negative 32, plus 32 like before. I don't have to convert the char. Someone has solved that problem for me in the past. And let's see if I can actually get back to it...

Command line argument  $\rightarrow$  the file you want to delete, taking command line arguments that modify the behavior of the program.

We've been typing `int main(void)` for the past week and just asking that you take on faith that it's just the way you do things. By default in C, at least the most recent versions thereof, there's only 2 official ways to write main functions:

**argc and argv**

```
int main(int argc, string argv[])
```

Argument count  $\rightarrow$  that stores how many words the human typed at the prompt.  
is going to be integer

The C automatically gives that to you. `string argv[]` stands for argument vector, that's going to be an array of all of the words that the human typed at the prompt.

So with today's building block of an array, we have the ability now to let the human type as many words or as few words, as they want at the prompt, C is going to automatically put them in an array called `argv`, and it's going to tell us how many words there are in an `int` called `argc`.

Oh wait, as the return type here, we'll come back to in just a moment...

$\rightarrow$  `argv[0]` is itself an array of strings, and `[0]` is itself a single string.

So it can be plugged into that % place-holder.

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

int main(int argc, string argv[])
{
    printf("hello, %s\n", argv[1]);
}

if (argc == 2) {
    printf("hello, %s\n", argv[1]);
} else {
    printf("hello, world\n");
}
```

make argv argument  
%s / argv David  
hello, David

**PROGRAMMING DEFENSIVELY**



Now I have some error handling here in  
(argc == 2)

Because, again, argc is argument count, the number of words, total, typed at the command line.

I would need to alter my logic to support more than just 2 words after the prompt.

~ So what's the point of this? ~

~ If you had to use get string every time you compile your code, it'd be kind of annoying, right?

~ In this command-line-interface world, if you support command line arguments, then you can use these little tricks.

~ That's why we had (argc) initially, but what more we can now put in main? Context matters!

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## Exit Status

- Useful for automating tests of your own code;
- when it comes to figuring out if a program ~~was~~ succeeded or failed;
- It turns out that man has 1 more feature we haven't leveraged, an ability to SIGNAL to the user ~~whether~~ whether something was successful or not.



And that's by the way of main's return value.

So I'm going to modify this program as follows, like this:

- Suppose I want to write a similar program that requires that the user type a word at the prompt, so that argc has to be 2 for whatever design purpose.
- If argc does NOT equal 2, I want to quit out of my program prematurely, because I want to insist that the user operate the program correctly.
- So I might give them an error message like "missing command line argument (/n)".

But now I want to quit out of the program. Now how can I do that?

↓  
The right way to do that is to return a value from main. Now it's a little weird because no one called main yet, main just gets called automatically, but the convention is onetime something goes wrong in a program you should return a non-zero value from main.

↓  
1 is fine as a go-to

If you return 1, that is a clue to the system, the OS, the PC, the cloud device that's something went wrong, Because 1 is not 0.

If everything works fine, let's go ahead and print out "hello, /s/n", argv[1]. If works fine, we will return 0.

Main has always defined by us as taking on int as a return value. By default, main automatically sort of secretly, returns 0 for you.

If you've never once use the return keyword, which you probably haven't in main, it just automatically returns 0 and the system or OS knows that all went well. But now that we're starting to get a little more sophisticated with our code, and you know, the programmer, so something went wrong, you can do it properly.

You can exit out of them by returning some other value, besides 0, from main.



And this is deductive that it's on and, right?

0 — everything worked

Unfortunately, in programming, there are seemingly, on infinite number of things that can go wrong. And it gives you 4 billion possible codes that you can use, exit statuses, to signify errors.

So if you've ever on your Mac or PC gotten some weird pop up that an error happened, sometimes, there's a cryptic number in it.

→ Maybe it's  $\oplus$ , maybe it's  $\ominus$

It might say "error code 123, or negative -49 or something like that.

What you're generally seeing, on these Exit STATUSES, these return values from main in a program that someone at Microsoft or Apple or somewhere else wrote, something went wrong, they are unnecessarily

showing you, the user, ~~the~~ what the error code is.

— & only, so that when you call customer support or submit a ticket, you can tell them what exit status you encountered, what error code you encounter.

## Readability

When analyzing text, will it be the words or kind of short, everything is very simple, that's probably a very young, or early, grade ~~level~~ level.

— "What makes this text assume on older audience, a more mature audience, a higher grade level, would you think? "

## Sophistication

## CRYPTOGRAPHY

This notion of scrambling information in such a way that you can hide the contents of a message from someone who might otherwise intercept it.

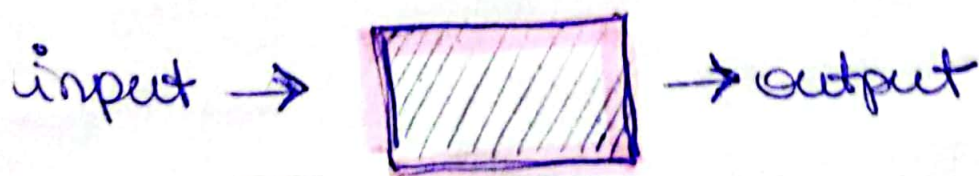


The earliest form of this might also be when you're younger, and you're in class, and you're passing a note from one person to another, from yourself to someone else.

You don't want to necessarily write a note in English or some other written language you might want to scramble it somehow, or **encrypt** it.

Maybe you change the A's to a B, and the B's to a C, so that if the teacher snags it up and intercepts it, **they can't actually understand what it is you've written because it's encrypted.**

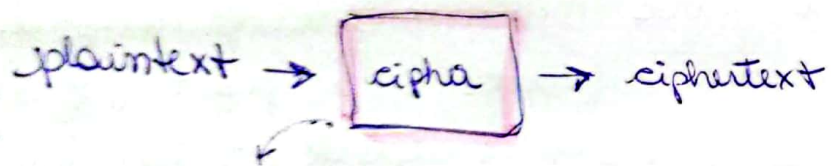
So long as your **friend**, the recipient of this note, **knows how** you **manipulated** it, how you **added** or **subtracted** letters to each other, they can **decrypt** it, which is to reverse that process. So formally, in the world of cryptography, and computer science, this is another problem to solve.





Your input, though, when you have a message you want to send securely, is what's generally known as plain text.

There's some algorithm that's going to then encipher, or encrypt that information, into what's called ciphertext, which is the scrambled version that theoretically can get safely intercepted and your message has NOT been spoiled, unless that intercept actually knows what algorithm you used inside of this process.



So that would be generally known as a cipher. The cipher typically takes, though, not 1 input, but 2.

If, for instance, your cipher is a simple one where A becomes B, B becomes C, C becomes D, ..., Z becomes A, you're essentially adding 1 to every letter and encrypting it.

You and the recipient both have to agree, presumably, before class, in advance, what number you're going to use that day to rotate or change (All of these letters by).

Because when you add 1, they upon receiving your ciphertext, have to subtract 1 to get back the answer.

For instance, if the input, plaintext is hi, as before, and the key is 1, the ciphertext using this simple rotational algorithm, otherwise known as the Caesar cipher, might be ij and motion point.

So it's familiar, but it's at least scrambled at first glance. Unless the teacher really could figure out what algorithm or they using today, or what <sup>key</sup> ~~they~~ or they using today, it's probably sufficiently secure for your purposes. How do you reverse the process?



Well, your friend gets this and reverses  
it by negative 1.

