

# Input String Streams

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The C++11 `string` class introduced several new functions, like `stoi()` and `stod()`, which convert `string` values like `42` to `int` or `double`. Prior to C++11, you used the `istringstream` class.

```
istringstream in("January 3, 2020");
```

The `istringstream` (or `input string stream`) variable named `in` allows you to `parse` all of the pieces of the date that has been supplied, and, in a much easier manner than using the `string` functions like `find()` and `substr()`:

```
string month; int day, year;
in >> month >> day; // read month and day
in.get();           // consume comma
in >> year;         // read and convert year
```

For complex values, like dates, the `istringstream` technique is the most efficient.



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