

# Array-based C-Strings

How you create a C-string determines **where the characters are stored in** memory. To copy characters **into user memory** where they can be modified, write this:

```
char s1[] = "String #1";
```

The C-string **s1** contains **exactly 10** characters; the **9** that appear in "String #1" and the terminating **NUL** character. Space for these characters is **allocated on the stack or static storage area**. The **actual characters are copied** into this "user space". This declaration is shorthand for:

```
char s1[] = {'S', 't', 'r', 'i', 'n', 'g', ' ', '#', '1', '\\0'};
```

Because the characters have been copied into memory that you control, you can **change them if you like** using the normal array subscripting operations.

```
s1[0] = 'C'; // OK; all characters are read-write
```

```
const size_t kLen = 1024; // small strings
char s2[kLen] = "String #2";
```

The declaration for **s2** is slightly different. While the effective size of the string is also **9** characters, its **allocated size** is set by **kLen** or **1024** in this case. Use **s2** if you want to add information to the end of the string, similar to partially-filled arrays.



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