

Pointer-based C-Strings

Pointers to **NUL-terminated character array literals** can be used as **C-strings**, **provided you don't attempt to modify them**:

```
const char *s3 = "String #3";
```

The character array itself is not copied into your user space. The characters are stored in the **static storage area** when the **program loads**. Attempting to change a character in **s3** is a **compiler error**, because of the **const**.

In C and in some older C++ code, you may see this declaration:

```
char *s4 = "String #4"
```

The declaration for **s4** is obsolete in modern C++, but may be found in older code (and is legal in C). The compiler will probably compile your code (**with warnings**), but **your program will probably crash** if you attempt to modify the string in any way. The portion of the static storage where string literals are stored is **effectively read-only**.



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