

# Understanding std::string Memory Allocation in C++

## 1. Case: string arr = "Nikhil";

- The variable 'arr' is declared as a local std::string object.
- 'arr' itself is stored on the stack.
- Internally, std::string dynamically allocates memory on the heap to store the characters of the string.
- So, while the object lives on the stack, the actual data ('N', 'i', etc.) is on the heap.

## 2. Case: string\* arr = new string[n];

- A pointer 'arr' is declared on the stack.
- new string[n] creates an array of n string objects on the heap.
- Each string object inside the array also manages its internal data (characters) on the heap.
- You must call delete[] arr to release this memory.

## 3. Stack vs Heap Comparison

| Declaration                  | Variable Location | String Data Location    |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| string s = "hi";             | s on Stack        | chars on Heap (managed) |
| string* s = new string;      | s on Stack        | object on Heap          |
| string* arr = new string[n]; | arr on Stack      | n objects on Heap       |

## 4. std::string Internals

- std::string contains a char\* pointer, length, and capacity internally.
- When a string is assigned a value, it allocates heap memory and manages it internally.
- This allows features like dynamic resizing, copy-on-write (older implementations), etc.

## 5. Summary

- You can use std::string with heap or stack memory freely.
- In templates like Stack<T>, string works perfectly since it's a proper C++ object.
- Heap allocations give dynamic size, stack variables give fast access.

## **Understanding std::string Memory Allocation in C++**

- Always manage heap memory manually if you use 'new'.