

C Programming Reference

There are two sources of information that you can use for the C programming language.

The first is a [C language quick reference](#) (in PDF) which gives an overview of the language.

The second reference source is the Unix Programmers' Manual, available via the `man` command. The most useful material will probably be the library function reference, available in section 3 of the manual. To access the manual entry for a particular function, e.g. `strlen`, use the command:

```
man 3 strlen
```

If you can't remember the name of the function you want, use the `apropos` command to get a list of suggestions. To use `apropos`, simply give a keyword that describes some aspect of the function. Imagine that you've forgotten the name of the `strlen` function, but you know there's a function compute the length of a string. Try the following command:

```
apropos length
```

The `apropos` command typically gives too many suggestions, but you can usually find what you want somewhere in the list.

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