

# 28. Find the Index of the First Occurrence in a String

Difficulty	easy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Finished	@July 13, 2023
Problem	string
Previously asked company	Google
website	leetcode

Question:

Given two strings `needle` and `haystack`, return the index of the first occurrence of `needle` in `haystack`, or `-1` if `needle` is not part of `haystack`.

Example 1:

Input: haystack = "sadbutsad", needle = "sad"  
Output: 0  
Explanation: "sad" occurs at index 0 and 6.  
The first occurrence is at index 0, so we return 0.

Example 2:

Input: haystack = "leetcode", needle = "leeto"  
Output: -1  
Explanation: "leeto" did not occur in "leetcode", so we return -1.

Optimal solution:

Time complexity:  $O(m \cdot n)$

Space complexity:  $O(1)$

```
class Solution(object):
    def strStr(self, haystack, needle):
        if needle == '':
            return 0

        for i in range(len(haystack) - len(needle) + 1):
            if haystack[i: i + len(needle)] == needle:
                return i
        return -1
```