

```

1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #include <string.h>
3 #include <stdlib.h> // for malloc
4
5 #define READLINE_LENGTH 4096
6
7 typedef struct String {
8     int len;
9     char* contents;
10 } String;
11
12 String readline() {
13     char input[READLINE_LENGTH];
14     char* result = fgets(input, READLINE_LENGTH, stdin);
15     if(result == NULL) {
16         String s = { -1, NULL };
17         return s;
18     }
19     int length = strlen(input);
20     char* contents = malloc(length + 1);
21     strcpy(contents, input);
22     String s = { strlen(input), contents };
23     return s;
24 }
25
26
27
28 int main(int argc, char** argv) {
29     char* to_find = argv[1];
30     while(1) {
31         String s = readline();
32         if(s.contents == NULL) { break; }
33         printf("%p (%d)\n", s.contents, s.len);
34         if strstr(s.contents, to_find) != NULL) {
35             printf("%s\n", s.contents);
36         }
37
38         free(s.contents);
39     }
40 }
41 }
```

output before adding free()

`void* malloc(size_t size)`

`void free(void* ptr)` - marks the memory for `ptr` as available
 for `malloc` again
 (must be called on a ptr from malloc)

↑
pointer of any type

```

$ gcc -Wall -g search.c -o search
$ ./search hi
hihello
0x58eafd1546b0 (8) • addresses
hihello
hi
0x58eafd154ae0 (3) • in increasing order
hi

hey!
0x58eafd154b00 (5) •
$ valgrind ./search hi
==1198410== Memcheck, a memory error detector
==1198410== Copyright (C) 2002-2022, and GNU GPL'd, by Julian Seward et
al.
==1198410== Using Valgrind-3.22.0 and LibVEX; rerun with -h for copyright
info
==1198410== Command: ./search hi
==1198410==
hihello
0x4a8b480 (8) — hi hello\0 (9)
hihello
hey!
0x4a8b910 (5) — hey\ln\0 (6)
more hi
0x4a8b960 (8) — more_hi\ln\0 (9)
more hi

==1198410==
==1198410== HEAP SUMMARY:
==1198410==     in use at exit: 24 bytes in 3 blocks
==1198410== total heap usage: 5 allocs, 2 frees, 2,072 bytes allocated
==1198410==
==1198410== LEAK SUMMARY:
==1198410==     definitely lost: 24 bytes in 3 blocks
==1198410==     indirectly lost: 0 bytes in 0 blocks
==1198410==     possibly lost: 0 bytes in 0 blocks
==1198410==     still reachable: 0 bytes in 0 blocks
==1198410==     suppressed: 0 bytes in 0 blocks
==1198410== Rerun with --leak-check=full to see details of leaked memory
==1198410==
==1198410== For lists of detected and suppressed errors, rerun with: -s
==1198410== ERROR SUMMARY: 0 errors from 0 contexts (suppressed: 0 from 0)
```

```
$ vim search.c # added call to free!
$ gcc -g -Wall search.c -o search # make a fix!
$ ./search hi
hihello
0x5bba414976b0 (8)
hihello
```

```
hi
0x5bba414976b0 (3)
hi
```

```
hey!
0x5bba414976b0 (5)
$ valgrind ./search hi
==1199633== Memcheck, a memory error detector
==1199633== Copyright (C) 2002-2022, and GNU GPL'd, by Julian Seward et
al.
==1199633== Using Valgrind-3.22.0 and LibVEX; rerun with -h for copyright
info
==1199633== Command: ./search hi
==1199633==
```

```
hihello
0x4a8b480 (8)
hihello
```

```
hi
0x4a8b910 (3)
hi
```

```
hey!
0x4a8b960 (5)
==1199633==  

==1199633== HEAP SUMMARY:  

==1199633==     in use at exit: 0 bytes in 0 blocks  

==1199633== total heap usage: 5 allocs, 5 frees, 2,067 bytes allocated  

==1199633== All heap blocks were freed -- no leaks are possible  

==1199633== For lists of detected and suppressed errors, rerun with: -s  

==1199633== ERROR SUMMARY: 0 errors from 0 contexts (suppressed: 0 from 0)
```

• ~~b1b2b3b4b5b6b7b8b9b0~~

b1b2b3b4b5b6b7b8b9b0

hey! \n \0

— still different
addresses!

ptr
free() constraints:

- ptr must have been malloc'd
- ptr must not be NULL
- ptr must not have been free()'d before
- ptr must not be used after the free()

Bad free

Double Free

Use-after-free

UNDEFINED BEHAVIOR

happy
valgrind
output!

the process can do anything
it is capable of

It is inhumanly possible to use
free() correctly in large programs

Rust Java Python
Automated Memory Mgmt