

**NAME**

`strlen` – determine the length of a fixed-size string

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <string.h>
```

```
size_t strlen(const char *s, size_t maxlen);
```

Feature Test Macro Requirements for glibc (see [feature\\_test\\_macros\(7\)](#)):

`strlen()`:

Since glibc 2.10:

```
_POSIX_C_SOURCE >= 200809L
```

Before glibc 2.10:

```
_GNU_SOURCE
```

**DESCRIPTION**

The `strlen()` function returns the number of bytes in the string pointed to by *s*, excluding the terminating null byte (`'\0'`), but at most *maxlen*. In doing this, `strlen()` looks only at the first *maxlen* characters in the string pointed to by *s* and never beyond *s+maxlen*.

**RETURN VALUE**

The `strlen()` function returns `strlen(s)`, if that is less than *maxlen*, or *maxlen* if there is no null terminating (`'\0'`) among the first *maxlen* characters pointed to by *s*.

**ATTRIBUTES**

For an explanation of the terms used in this section, see [attributes\(7\)](#).

Interface	Attribute	Value
<code>strlen()</code>	Thread safety	MT-Safe

**CONFORMING TO**

POSIX.1-2008.

**SEE ALSO**

[strlen\(3\)](#)

**COLOPHON**

This page is part of release 5.05 of the Linux *man-pages* project. A description of the project, information about reporting bugs, and the latest version of this page, can be found at <https://www.kernel.org/doc/man-pages/>.