



Linux Ubuntu 26.04 Manual Pages on command 'memmem.3'

\$ man memmem.3

memmem(3) Library Functions Manual memmem(3)

NAME

memmem - locate a substring

LIBRARY

Standard C library (libc, -lc)

SYNOPSIS

```
#define GNU_SOURCE /* See feature_test_macros(7) */
```

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

```
void *memmem(size_t hsize, size_t nsize;
             const void haystack[hsize], size_t hsize,
             const void needle[nsize], size_t nsize);
```

DESCRIPTION

The `memmem()` function finds the start of the first occurrence of the substring `needle` of size `nsz` in the memory area `haystack` of size `hsz`.

RETURN VALUE

The `memmem()` function returns a pointer to the beginning of the substring, or `NULL` if the substring is not found.

ATTRIBUTES

For an explanation of the terms used in this section, see `attributes(7)`.

[illegible]

Interface	Attribute	Value
?	?	?

[illegible]

? memmem() ? Thread safety ? MT-Safe ?

[illegible]

STANDARDS

None.

HISTORY

musl libc 0.9.7; FreeBSD 6.0, OpenBSD 5.4, NetBSD, Illumos.

BUGS

In `glibc` 2.0, if `needle` is empty, `memmem()` returns a pointer to the last byte of `haystack`.

This is fixed in glibc 2.1.

SEE ALSO

bstring(3), strstr(3)

Linux man-pages 6.17

2026-02-08

memmem(3)