



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

\$ man strsep.3

strsep(3) Library Functions Manual strsep(3)

NAME

strsep - extract token from string

LIBRARY

Standard C library (libc, -lc)

SYNOPSIS

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

```
char *strsep(char **restrict stringp, const char *restrict delim);
```

Feature Test Macro Requirements for glibc (see feature_test_macros(7)):

strsep():

Since glibc 2.19:

```
_DEFAULT_SOURCE
```

glibc 2.19 and earlier:

```
_BSD_SOURCE
```

DESCRIPTION

If `*stringp` is NULL, the `strsep()` function returns NULL and does nothing else. Otherwise, this function finds the first token in the string `*stringp` that is delimited by one of the bytes in the string `delim`. This token is terminated by overwriting the delimiter with a null byte (`'\0'`), and `*stringp` is updated to point past the token. In case no delimiter was found, the token is taken to be the entire string `*stringp`, and `*stringp` is made NULL.

RETURN VALUE

The `strsep()` function returns a pointer to the token, that is, it returns the original value of `*stringp`.

ATTRIBUTES

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

[illegible]

?	Interface	?	Attribute	?	Value	?
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[illegible]

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

[illegible]

STANDARDS

BSD.

HISTORY

4.4BSD.

The `strsep()` function was introduced as a replacement for `strtok(3)`, since the latter cannot handle empty fields.

CAVEATS

Be cautious when using this function. If you do use it, note that:

? This function modifies its first argument.

? This function cannot be used on constant strings.

? The identity of the delimiting character is lost.

EXAMPLES

The program below is a port of the one found in `strtok(3)`, which, however, doesn't discard multiple delimiters or empty tokens:

```
$ ./a.out 'a/bbb///cc;xxx:yyy:' ':' '/'
```

1: a/bbb///cc

$$\rightarrow a$$

--> bbb

-->

-->

--> CC

2: xxx

--> XXX

3: *yyy*

--> yyy

4:

-->

Program source

```
#include <stdio.h>

#include <stdlib.h>

#include <string.h>

int

main(int argc, char *argv[])

{

    char *token, *subtoken;

    if (argc != 4) {

        fprintf(stderr, "Usage: %s string delim subdelim\n", argv[0]);

        exit(EXIT_FAILURE);

    }

    for (unsigned int j = 1; (token = strsep(&argv[1], argv[2])); j++) {

        printf("%u: %s\n", j, token);

        while ((subtoken = strsep(&token, argv[3])))

            printf("\t --> %s\n", subtoken);

    }

    exit(EXIT_SUCCESS);

}
```

SEE ALSO

memchr(3), strchr(3), string(3), strpbrk(3), strspn(3), strstr(3), strtok(3)

Linux man-pages 6.17

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strsep(3)