

**NAME**

**memmem** - locate a byte substring in a byte string

**LIBRARY**

Standard C Library (libc, -lc)

**SYNOPSIS**

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

```
void *
```

```
memmem(const void *big, size_t big_len, const void *little, size_t little_len);
```

**DESCRIPTION**

The **memmem**() function locates the first occurrence of the byte string *little* in the byte string *big*.

**RETURN VALUES**

If *little\_len* is zero *big* is returned (that is, an empty *little* is deemed to match at the beginning of *big*); if *little* occurs nowhere in *big*, NULL is returned; otherwise a pointer to the first character of the first occurrence of *little* is returned.

**SEE ALSO**

memchr(3), strchr(3), strstr(3)

**CONFORMING TO**

**memmem**() started as a GNU extension but is now available in at least the GNU, musl, bionic, OpenBSD, NetBSD, macOS, and illumos C runtime libraries.

**HISTORY**

The **memmem**() function first appeared in FreeBSD 6.0. It was replaced with an optimized O(n) implementation from the musl libc project in FreeBSD 12.0. Pascal Gloor <pascal.gloor@spale.com> provided this man page along with the previous implementation.

**BUGS**

This function was broken in Linux libc up to and including version 5.0.9 and in GNU libc prior to version 2.1. Prior to FreeBSD 11.0 **memmem** returned NULL when *little\_len* equals 0.