

# ASSEMBLY - LODS INSTRUCTION

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In cryptography, a Caesar cipher is one of the simplest known encryption techniques. In this method, each letter in the data to be encrypted is replaced by a letter some fixed number of positions down the alphabet.

In this example, let us encrypt a data by simply replacing each alphabet in it with a shift of two alphabets, so **a** will be substituted by **c**, **b** with **d** and so on.

We use LODS to load the original string 'password' into the memory.

```
section .text
    global _start          ;must be declared for using gcc

_start:
    ;tell linker entry point
    mov     ecx, len
    mov     esi, s1
    mov     edi, s2

loop_here:
    lodsb
    add     al, 02
    stosb
    loop    loop_here
    cld
    rep     movsb

    mov     edx, 20         ;message length
    mov     ecx, s2         ;message to write
    mov     ebx, 1         ;file descriptor (stdout)
    mov     eax, 4         ;system call number (sys_write)
    int     0x80           ;call kernel

    mov     eax, 1         ;system call number (sys_exit)
    int     0x80           ;call kernel

section .data
s1 db 'password', 0 ;source
len equ $-s1

section .bss
s2 resb 10             ;destination
```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
rcuuyqtf
```