C LIBRARY FUNCTION - TMPNAM

Description

The C library function **char *tmpnam***char * str* generates and returns a valid temporary filename which does not exist. If **str** is null then it simply returns the tmp file name.

Declaration

Following is the declaration for tmpnam function.

```c
char *tmpnam(char *str)
```

Parameters

- **str** − This is the pointer to an array of chars where the proposed tempname will be stored as a C string.

Return Value

- Return value is a pointer to the C string containing the proposed name for a temporary file. If str was a null pointer, this points to an internal buffer that will be overwritten the next time this function is called.

- If str was not a null pointer, str is returned. If the function fails to create a suitable filename, it returns a null pointer.

Example

The following example shows the usage of tmpnam function.

```c
#include <stdio.h>

int main()
{
   char buffer[L_tmpnam];
   char *ptr;

   tmpnam(buffer);
   printf("Temporary name 1: %s\n", buffer);

   ptr = tmpnam(NULL);
   printf("Temporary name 2: %s\n", ptr);

   return(0);
}
```

Let us compile and run the above program to produce the following result −

```
Temporary name 1: /tmp/filebaalTb
Temporary name 2: /tmp/filedCThb0
```

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