

`\hfilneg`  
`\vfilneg`

These commands cancel the effect of a preceding `\hfil` or `\vfil`. While `\hfil` and `\vfil` produce infinitely stretchable positive glue, `\hfilneg` and `\vfilneg` produce infinitely stretchable negative glue. (Thus,  $n$  `\hfilneg`s cancel  $n$  `\hfil`s, and similarly for `\vfilneg`.) The main use of `\hfilneg` and `\vfilneg` is to counteract the effect of an `\hfil` or `\vfil` inserted by a macro.

`\hfilneg` and `\vfilneg` have the curious property that if they are the only infinitely stretchable glue in a box, they produce exactly the same effect as `\hfil` and `\vfil`.

*Example:*

```
\leftline{\hfil on the right\hfilneg}
% Cancel the \hfil that \leftline produces to the right
% of its argument.
```

*produces:*

on the right

*Example:*

```
\def\ a{\hbox to 1pc{\hfil 2}\vfil}
\vbox to 4pc{\hbox{1} \vfil \ a
\hfilneg \hbox to 2pc{\hfil 3}}
```

*produces:*

1

2

3