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☞   `\bf`   use boldface type
　　`\it`　use italic type
　　`\rm`　use roman type
　　`\sl`　use slanted type
　　`\tt`　use typewriter type

These commands select a type style without changing the typeface or the point size.[1] Normally you would enclose one of these type style commands in a group, together with the text to be set in the selected font. Outside of a group a type style command is effective until the end of the document (unless you override it with another such command).

Example:

```
The Dormouse was {\it not} amused.
```

produces:

The Dormouse was *not* amused.

---

[1] TEX does not provide predefined commands for changing just the point size, e.g., `\eightpoint`. Supporting such commands would require a great number of fonts, most of which would never be used. Such commands were, however, used in typesetting *The TEXbook*.