

`\escapechar` [ *⟨number⟩* parameter ]

This parameter specifies the ASCII code of the character that T<sub>E</sub>X uses to represent the escape character when it's converting a control sequence name to a sequence of character tokens. This conversion occurs when you use the `\string` command and also when T<sub>E</sub>X is producing diagnostic messages. The default value of the escape character is 92, the ASCII character code for a backslash. If `\escapechar` is not in the range 0–255, T<sub>E</sub>X does not include an escape character in the result of the conversion.

*Example:*

```
\escapechar = '!  
the control sequence {\tt \string\bigbreak}
```

*produces:*

```
the control sequence !bigbreak
```