page layout 1

page layout. When you're designing a document, you need to decide on its page layout: the page size, the margins on all four sides, the headers and footers, if any, that appear at the top and bottom of the page, and the amount of space between the body of the text and the headers or footers. TEX has defaults for all of these. It assumes an $8^{1/2}$ -by-11-inch page with margins of approximately one inch on all four sides, no header, and a footer consisting of a centered page number.

The margins are determined jointly by the four parameters \hoffset, \voffset, \hsize, and \vsize (see "margins", page 'margins', for advice on how to adjust them). The header normally consists of a single line that appears at the top of each page, within the top margin area. You can set it by assigning a token list to the \headline parameter (p. '\headline'). Similarly, the footer normally consists of a single line that appears at the bottom of each page, within the bottom margin area. You can set it by assigning a token list to the \footline parameter (p. '\footline'). For example, the input:

\headline = {Baby's First Document\dotfill Page\folio}
\footline = {\hfil}

produces a header line like this on each page:

and no footer line.

You can use marks to place the current topic of a section of text into the header or footer. See "mark" (p. 'mark') for an explanation of how to do this.