

`\tracingcommands` [*$\langle number \rangle$* parameter]

If this parameter is 1 or greater, T_EX will record in the log file most commands that it executes. If `\tracingonline` is greater than zero, this information will also appear at your terminal. Typesetting the first character of a word counts as a command, but (for the purposes of the trace only) the actions of typesetting the subsequent characters and any punctuation following them do not count as commands. If `\tracingcommands` is 2 or greater, T_EX will also record commands that are expanded rather than executed, e.g., conditional tests and their outcomes.

Example:

```
\tracingcommands = 1 If $x+y>0$ we quit.\par
On the other hand, \tracingcommands = 0
```

produces in the log:

```
{vertical mode: the letter I}
{horizontal mode: the letter I}
{blank space }
{math shift character $}
{math mode: the letter x}
{the character +}
{the letter y}
{the character >}
{the character 0}
{math shift character $}
{horizontal mode: blank space }
{the letter w}
{blank space }
{the letter q}
{blank space }
{\par}
{vertical mode: the letter O}
{horizontal mode: the letter O}
{blank space }
{the letter t}
{blank space }
{the letter o}
{blank space }
{the letter h}
{blank space }
{\tracingcommands}
```