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| | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| <code>\big</code> | <code>\Big</code> | <code>\bigg</code> | <code>\Bigg</code> |
| <code>\bigl</code> | <code>\Bigl</code> | <code>\biggl</code> | <code>\Biggl</code> |
| <code>\bigm</code> | <code>\Bigm</code> | <code>\biggm</code> | <code>\Biggm</code> |
| <code>\bigr</code> | <code>\Bigr</code> | <code>\biggr</code> | <code>\Biggr</code> |

These commands make delimiters bigger than their normal size. The commands in the four columns produce successively larger sizes. The difference between `\big`, `\bigl`, `\bigr`, and `\bigm` has to do with the class of the enlarged delimiter:

- `\big` produces an ordinary symbol.
- `\bigl` produces an opening symbol.
- `\bigr` produces a closing symbol.
- `\bigm` produces a relation symbol.

TeX uses the class of a symbol in order to decide how much space to put around that symbol.

These commands, unlike `\left` and `\right`, do *not* define a group.

Example:

```
$(x) \quad \bigl(x\bigr) \quad \Bigl(x\Bigr) \quad \quad \quad \biggl(x\biggr) \quad \Biggl(x\Biggr)\quad \quad \quad [x] \quad \bigl[x\bigr] \quad \Bigl[x\Bigr] \quad \quad \quad \biggl[x\biggr] \quad \Biggl[x\Biggr]$$
```

produces:

$$(x) \quad (x) \quad (x) \quad (x) \quad (x) \quad [x] \quad [x] \quad [x] \quad [x] \quad [x]$$