

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

This parameter specifies additional demerits that T<sub>E</sub>X attaches to a breakpoint that causes the next to last line of a paragraph to end with a hyphen. Such a hyphen is generally considered to be unaesthetic because of the possible blank space from a short last line beneath it. Increasing the value of this parameter has the effect of discouraging T<sub>E</sub>X from ending the next to the last line with a hyphen. Demerits are in units of badness squared, so you need to assign a rather large value to this parameter (in the thousands) for it to have any effect. Plain T<sub>E</sub>X sets `\finalhyphendemerits` to 5000.