space **1**

space. You can cause TeX to put *space* between two items in several ways:

1) You can write something that TeX treats as a space token: one or more blank characters, the end of a line (the end-of-line character acts like a space), or any command that expands into a space token. TeX generally treats several consecutive spaces as equivalent to a single one, including the case where the spaces include a single end-of-line. (An empty line indicates the end of a paragraph; it causes TeX to generate a `\par` token.) TeX adjusts the size of this kind of space to suit the length required by the context.

2) You can write a skip command that produces the glue you specify in the command. The glue can stretch or shrink, producing more or less space. You can have vertical glue as well as horizontal glue. Glue disappears whenever it is next to a line or page break.

3) You can write a kern. A kern produces a fixed amount of space that does not stretch or shrink and does not disappear at a line or page break (unless it is immediately followed by glue). The most common use of a kern is to establish a fixed spatial relationship between two adjacent boxes.

Glue and kerns can have negative values. Negative glue or a negative kern between adjacent items brings those items closer together.