

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

If this parameter is greater than zero, T<sub>E</sub>X will record in the log file its calculations of the cost of various page breaks that it tries. If `\tracing-online` is greater than zero, this information will also appear at your terminal. T<sub>E</sub>X produces a line of this output whenever it first places a box or insertion on the current page list, and also whenever it processes a potential break point for the page. Examining this output can be helpful when you're trying to determine the cause of a bad page break. See pages 112–114 of *The T<sub>E</sub>Xbook* for an illustration and explanation of this output.

Some production forms of T<sub>E</sub>X ignore the value of `\tracingpages` so that they can run faster. If you need to use this parameter, be sure to use a form that responds to it.