

`\bf` use boldface type
`\it` use italic type
`\rm` use roman type
`\sl` use slanted type
`\tt` use typewriter type

These commands select a type style without changing the typeface or the point size.¹ Normally you would enclose one of these type style commands in a group, together with the text to be set in the selected font. Outside of a group a type style command is effective until the end of the document (unless you override it with another such command).

Example:

The Dormouse was `{\it not}` amused.

produces:

The Dormouse was *not* amused.

¹ T_EX does not provide predefined commands for changing just the point size, e.g., `\eightpoint`. Supporting such commands would require a great number of fonts, most of which would never be used. Such commands were, however, used in typesetting *The T_EXbook*.