1

\hss \vss

These commands produce horizontal and vertical glue that is both infinitely stretchable and infinitely shrinkable. The glue can shrink to a negative distance, producing the effect of backspacing along a line (for \hss) or moving back up a page (for \vss).

Example:

\line{text\hfil\hbox to Opt{margin\hss}}

% 'margin\hss' shrinks to the zero width of the hbox.

roduces:

text margin

Example:

\vbox to 1pc{\hrule width 6pc % Top of box.
\hbox{1} \vskip 1pc\hbox to 2pc{\hfil 2}
% The \vss absorbs the extra distance produced by \vskip.
\vss \hbox to 3pc{\hfil 3}
\hrule width 6pc}% Bottom of box.

produces:

1 3

2