

*style*

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**style.** Material in a math formula is set in one of eight *styles*, depending on the context. Knowing about styles can be useful if you want to set part of a formula in a different size of type than the one that T<sub>E</sub>X has chosen according to its usual rules.

The four primary styles are:

display style	(for formulas displayed on a line by themselves)
text style	(for formulas embedded in ordinary text)
script style	(for superscripts and subscripts)
scriptscript style	(for superscripts on superscripts, etc.)

The other four styles are so-called cramped variants. In these variants superscripts aren't raised as high as usual, and so the formula needs less vertical space than it otherwise would. See pages 140–141 of *The T<sub>E</sub>Xbook* for the details of how T<sub>E</sub>X selects the style.

T<sub>E</sub>X chooses a size of type according to the style:

- Display style and text style are set in text size, like ‘this’.
- Script style is set in script size, like ‘<sub>this</sub>’.
- Scriptscript style is set in scriptscript size, like ‘<sub><sub>this</sub></sub>’.

See “family” (p. ‘family’) for more information about these three sizes.

T<sub>E</sub>X doesn't have a “scriptscriptscript” style because such a style would usually have to be set in a size of type too small to read. T<sub>E</sub>X therefore sets third-order subscripts, superscripts, etc., using the scriptscript style.

Once in a while you may find that T<sub>E</sub>X has set a formula in a different style than the one you'd prefer. You can override T<sub>E</sub>X's choice with the `\textstyle`, `\displaystyle`, `\scriptstyle`, and `\scriptscriptstyle` commands (p. ‘`\textstyle`').