Consider the code:

\newskip\A
\newskip\B
\A = 3pt plus 1pt minus 1pt
\B = 1\A

Is now the skip \B equal to \A?
No, it’s not:

\the\A \% 3pt plus 1pt minus 1pt
\the\B \% 3pt

In an assignment of the form

\texttt{skip = <number> \texttt{skip}}

\TeX\ ignores that part of a glue which deals with shrinkability and stretchability. To avoid this effect one should not use a number/factor (digit 1 in this case) at the right hand side of the equation. When necessary, one should use the \texttt{\texttt{advance}}, \texttt{\texttt{divide}}, \texttt{\texttt{multiply}} primitives instead, since all they preserve the glue-specific part.