

## Karl Berry

### Word double-hyphenation

How about this macro for an explicit hyphen that does not inhibit further hyphenation within the word? (It's not original with me; the  $\text{T}_{\text{E}}\text{X}$ nique was first described by Knuth, I believe.)

```
\def\xhyphen{\leavevmode\nobreak-\hskipOpt }
```

Let's compare the following two paragraphs:

```
\hsize=2.5in
```

```
How about this macro for an explicit hyphen that does not inhibit  
further-hyphenation within the word?
```

```
How about this macro for an explicit hyphen that does not inhibit  
further\xhyphen hyphenation within the word?
```

```
How about this macro for an explicit  
hyphen that does not inhibit further-hyphenation  
within the word?
```

```
How about this macro for an explicit  
hyphen that does not inhibit further-hy-  
phenation within the word?
```

All the magic is done by the `\hskipOpt`, which essentially starts a new word as far as  $\text{T}_{\text{E}}\text{X}$  is concerned (in the middle of the hyphenated word), thus giving it a new chance at hyphenation. The `\leavevmode` merely avoids the penalty being added to the vertical list, in case the macro is used at the beginning of a paragraph.