

Re: What doe sthis line mean?

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Development/microsoft.public.win32.programmer.directx.managed/2006-03/ms>

- *From:* Arnaud Meurgues <news.arnaud@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Fri, 24 Mar 2006 16:55:41 +0100
-

Daniel wrote:

```
m_verts = new GraphicsBuffer<PositionColored>( 3 );
```

Can someone explain what the < > bit id for? i have never seen this sue of the < symbol and dont know what it does. Thanks.

This is a generic class (like template classes in C++). This is a way to build a set of classes parameterized by a type.

The most common use of these kinds of classes are containers. Instead of using the same container class for storing Apples and Potatoes, you can define a generic container that can manipulate Apples or Potatoes, according to a type parameter : Container<Apple> will store Apples and Container<Potatoes> will store Potatoes.

This allow to detect errors (like inserting a Potatoe into an Apples container) at compilation time instead of getting an error at runtime.

You can find a more detailed explanation there :
<http://www.developer.com/net/net/article.php/2229511>

--
Arnaud

.