

## Blotch3D Manual



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# Chapter 1

## Blotch3D

### 1.1 Features

Blotch3D is a high-level C# library that vastly simplifies many of the tasks in developing real-time 3D applications and games.

You can...

- Load standard 3D model file types as "sprites" and display and move thousands of them in 3D at high frame rates.
- Programmatically create a wide variety of sprite shapes.
- Create sprites by defining individual polygons.
- Load textures from standard image files, including textures with an alpha channel (i.e. with translucent pixels).
- Set a sprite's material, texture, and lighting response.
- Show 2D and in-world text in any font, size, color, etc. at any 2D or 3D position, and make text follow a sprite in 2D or 3D.
- Attach sprites to other sprites to create 'sprite trees' as large as you want. Child sprite orientation, position, scale, etc. are relative to the parent sprite and can be changed dynamically (i.e. the sprite trees are real-time dynamic scene graphs.)
- Override all steps in the drawing of each sprite.
- Easily give the user control over all aspects of the camera (zoom, pan, truck, dolly, rotate, etc.).
- Easily control all aspects of the camera programmatically.
- Create billboard sprites.
- Show a video as a 2D or 3D texture on a sprite (See <http://rbwhitaker.wikidot.com/video-playback> for details).
- Connect sprites to the camera to implement HUD models and text.
- Connect the camera to a sprite to implement 'cockpit view'.
- Implement GUI controls in the 3D window as dynamic 2D text or image rectangles, and with transparent pixels.
- Implement a skybox sprite.

- Get a list of sprites touching a ray (within a sprite radius) to implement weapons fire, etc.
- Get a list of sprites under the mouse position (within a sprite radius) to implement mouse selection, tooltips, pop-up menus, etc.
- Implement levels-of-detail.
- Implement mipmaps.
- Implement height fields (a surface with a height that maps from an image).
- Implement 3D graphs (a surface with a height that follows an equation or an array of height values).
- Dynamically transform a texture on a surface.
- Use with WPF and WinForms on Microsoft Windows.
- Access and override many window features and functions using the provided WinForms Form object of the window (Microsoft Windows only, and see the description before using).
- Detect sprite radius collisions.
- Implement fog.
- Create totally configurable particle systems.
- Define ambient lighting and up to three point-light sources.
- Several shaders are provided to support texture transforms, alpha textures with lighting, etc.
- Easily write your own custom shaders using the provided shader code as a template.
- All other MonoGame features remain available.
- Build for many platforms. Currently supports all Microsoft Windows platforms, iOS, Android, MacOS, Linux, PS4, PSVita, Xbox One, and Switch.

Blotch3D sits on top of MonoGame and all MonoGame's features are still available. MonoGame is a widely used 3D library for C#. It is open source, free, fast, cross platform, actively developed by a large community, and used in many professional games. There is a plethora of MonoGame documentation, tutorials, examples, and discussions on line.

Reference documentation of Blotch3D (classes, methods, fields, properties, etc.) is available through Visual Studio IntelliSense and in "Blotch3DManual.pdf". Note: To support Doxygen documentation generator, links in the IntelliSense comments are preceded with '#'.

See MonoGame.net for the official MonoGame documentation. When searching on-line for other MonoGame documentation and discussions, be sure to note the MonoGame version being discussed. Documentation of earlier versions may not be compatible with the latest.

MonoGame fully implements Microsoft's (no longer supported) XNA 4 engine, but for multiple platforms. Documentation of earlier versions of XNA (versions 2 and 3) will often not be correct. For conversion of XNA 3 to XNA 4 see <http://www.nelsonhurst.com/xna-3-1-to-xna-4-0-cheatsheet/>.

Note that to support all the platforms there are certain limitations in MonoGame. Currently you can only have one 3D window per process. (Creating multiple 3D windows is buggy—unless you do it from separate processes.) Also, there is no official cross-platform way to specify an existing window to use as the 3D window—MonoGame must create it. See below for details and work-arounds.

The provided Visual Studio solution file contains both the Blotch3D library project with source, and the example projects.

Several bare-bones examples demonstrate some of the more common tasks with just a few lines of code. The source file name for each example project is Example.cs. You can do a diff between the basic example's Example.cs and another example's Example.cs to see what extra code must be added to implement the features it demonstrates.

## 1.2 Quick start for Windows

To deliver a Blotch3D app for Windows, just deliver the contents of your project's output folder. No other software need be installed on the target system.

To develop with Blotch3D...

1. Get the installer for "Visual C++ Redistributable for Visual Studio 2012" for your platform from <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=30679> and run it with the default settings.
2. Get the installer for the latest release of the MonoGame SDK for Visual Studio from <http://www.monogame.net/downloads/> and run it with the default settings. (Do NOT get the current development version nor a NuGet package.)
3. Download the Blotch3D repository, or clone it.
4. Open the Visual Studio solution file (Blotch3D.sln) and build and run the example projects.
5. Use IntelliSense and see "Blotch3DManual.pdf" for the reference documentation.
6. See [Creating a new project](#) for details on creating projects, adding Blotch3D to an existing project, or building for another platform.
7. Also see the [Deficiencies and Alternatives](#) section.

## 1.3 Deficiencies and Alternatives

Although any feature can certainly be implemented by the app developer, notable features directly lacking in Blotch3D are...

- Shadows (although they might be added in the future)
- Physics
- Per-face collision detection
- Optimized (tree) collision detection
- More than one 3D window per process
- A NuGet package

One alternative is UrhoSharp. I haven't looked at it in detail, but below are listed some of its advantages.

- UrhoSharp has a NuGet package
- UrhoSharp supports physics
- UrhoSharp supports octree collision detection
- UrhoSharp supports shadows

A few UrhoSharp disadvantages (compared to Blotch3D) I happened to notice are:

- UrhoSharp bare bones code is a bit more complicated than Blotch3D's

- The official UrhoSharp reference documentation is sparse or non-existent
- Although there are third party help and discussions for UrhoSharp, there is notably more for MonoGame (Blotch3D's underlying 3D engine)
- UrhoSharp is notably younger than MonoGame. There seemed to be more recent bug reports.
- UrhoSharp supports less or no programmatic object creation
- There doesn't appear to be an intrinsic texture transform shader
- Particle systems are not as versatile

Finally, a mention of three.js is in order, even though it is JavaScript rather than C#, because it's so full featured yet easy to learn. See <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/uwp/get-started/get-started-tutorial> for Visual Studio-based development of three.js.

## 1.4 Creating a new project

(See the [Quick start for Windows](#) section to set everything up for development)

The easiest way to create a new project for Windows is to copy an existing example project (like the basic example) and then rename it using Visual Studio.

To add MonoGame + Blotch3D to an existing Windows project, add a reference to the appropriate MonoGame binary (typically in "\\Program Files (x86)\\MSBuild\\MonoGame\\v3.0\\..."). Also add a reference to, or the source of, Blotch3D.

NOTE: In Visual Studio, when one assembly references another assembly, by default Visual Studio only copies the DLLs of the referenced project to the output folder of the referring project. When a referenced library has other files, like content files, then not only will you need to set each file's 'Copy always' or 'Copy if newer' flag so it gets copied to that assembly's output folder, you will also need to make sure all referring libraries or at least the highest level app project still references it even if it doesn't directly use it, and set the 'Copy local' flag of the reference to 'true' or 'yes'. This makes sure any extra file (besides the DLLs) in the referenced project are included in the output folder of that referring project.

To create a project for another platform besides Microsoft Windows: First you will need to install any Visual Studio add-ons, etc. for the desired platform. For example, for Android you'd need the Xamarin for Android add-on. Then use the MonoGame Visual Studio project wizard to create a project for that platform that will be the Blotch3D class library. Delete any default source files created by the wizard and add the source files of the Blotch3D library. Go to project properties and change the project type from an executable to a class library. Then use the same wizard to create a project for that same platform that will be your app and add to it a reference to that Blotch3D project you created first. For some platforms you may need to do some online research to properly create projects.

## 1.5 Development overview

See the examples, starting with the basic example.

You define a 3D window by deriving a class from `BIWindow3D` and overriding at least the `FrameDraw` method. Open the window by instantiating that class and calling its "Run" method *from the same thread*. The Run method then calls the methods you've overridden, when appropriate, and does not return until the window has closed.

All code that accesses the 3D hardware must be in `BIWindow3D` overridden methods. This is because 3D subsystems (OpenGL, DirectX, etc.) generally require that a single thread access all 3D hardware resources for a given 3D

window. There are certain platform-specific exceptions to this rule, but we don't use them. This rule also applies to any code structure (like `Parallel`, etc.) that may internally use other threads, as well. Also, since sometimes it's hard to know exactly what 3D operations really do hit the 3D hardware, it's best to assume all of them do, like creation and use of all `Blotch3D` and `MonoGame` objects.

You can put all your 3D code in the one overridden method called `"FrameDraw"`, if you like, but there are a couple of other overridable methods provided for your convenience. There is a `Setup` method that is called once when the 3D window is first opened and a `FrameProc` method that is called every frame. The `FrameDraw` method is also called each frame, but only when there is enough CPU available. You are welcome to put whatever you like in any of those three methods, except that actual drawing code (code that causes things to appear in the window) must be in the `FrameDraw` method.

For apps that may suffer from severe CPU exhaustion (at least for the 3D thread), it might be best to put all your periodic 3D code in `FrameDraw` and not bother with `FrameProc`. In this way your code will be called less often under high-CPU loads. Of course, then your periodic code should handle being called at a variable rate.

You can also specify a delegate to the `BISprite` constructor. The delegate will also be executed every frame. The effect is the same as putting the code in `FrameProc`, but it better encapsulates sprite-specific code.

A single-threaded application would have all its code in the overridden methods or delegates. If you are developing a multithreaded program, then you would probably want to reserve the 3D thread (the call to the `BIWindow3D`'s `'Run'` method and its overrides) only for tasks that access 3D hardware resources. When other threads do need to create, change, or destroy 3D hardware resources or otherwise do something in a thread-safe way with the 3D thread, they can pass a delegate to the 3D thread with `BIWindow3D.EnqueueCommand` or `BIWindow3D.EnqueueCommand<Blocking>`, which will be executed within one frame time by the 3D thread.

Models or `VertexBuffers` must be added to the `BISprite.LODs` container for them to appear when you draw that sprite. Otherwise nothing is drawn. See how the examples create a model or vertex buffer and add it to that collection. When a sprite is disposed, it does not dispose the models in its `LODs` container. This is so you can add the same model to multiple sprites.

You can use a variety of methods to draw things in `FrameDraw`. Sprites are drawn with the `BISprite.Draw` method. When you draw a sprite, all its subsprites are also drawn. So oftentimes you may want to have a "Top" sprite that holds other sprites as its subsprites and call the `Draw` method of the Top sprite to cause the other sprites to be drawn. There are also methods to draw text and textures in 2D (just draw them after all 3D objects have been drawn so they aren't overwritten by them). You can also draw things using the lower-level `MonoGame` methods. For example, it is faster to draw multiple 2D textures and text using `MonoGame`'s `SpriteBatch` class.

The easiest way to set the camera position and orientation is to periodically call `Graphics.DoDefaultGui()`. Typically, this is done in the `FrameProc` method, but could be done in the `FrameDraw` method as well. If you want other ways to control the camera, then see the various `Graphics.AdjustCamera...` methods, the `Graphics.SetCameraToSprite` method, and the `View`, `Eye`, and `LookAt` fields.

`BIWindow3D` derives from `MonoGame`'s `"Game"` class, so you can also override other `Game` class overridable methods. Just be sure to call the base method from within a `Game` class overridden method.

Because multiple windows are not conducive to some of the supported platforms, `MonoGame`, and thus `Blotch3D`, do not support more than one 3D window in the same process. If you need multiple 3D windows, you'll have to do it from multiple processes. You can *create* multiple 3D windows in the same process, but `MonoGame` does not handle them correctly (input sometimes goes to the wrong window and in certain situations will crash). You can, of course, create any number of non-3D windows you like in the same process.

On Microsoft Windows, you can also control certain window features and add window event handlers with the associated `Windows 'Forms' object`, `BIWindow3D.WindowForm`.

Officially, `Blotch3D+MonoGame` must create the system window used for the 3D window and does not allow you to specify an existing window to use as the 3D window. There are some platform-specific ways to do it described online but note that they may not work in later `MonoGame` releases.

To properly make the BIWindow3D window be a child window of an existing GUI, you need to explicitly size, position, and convey Z order to that 3D window so that it is overlaid over the child window. The BIWindow3D.WindowForm field will be useful for this (Microsoft Windows only).

By default, lighting, background color, and sprite coloring are set so that it is most probable you will see the sprite. These may need to be changed after you've verified sprites are properly created and positioned.

All MonoGame features remain available and accessible when using Blotch3D. For examples:

- The Models and VertexBuffers that you can add to BISprite.LODs are MonoGame objects.
- The BIWindow3D class derives from the MonoGame "Game" class. The Setup, FrameProc, and FrameDraw methods are called by certain overridden Game methods. (Override MonoGame methods as you like but be sure to call the base method from within the overridden method.)
- The BIGraphicsDeviceManager class derives from MonoGame's "GraphicsDeviceManager" class.
- You are welcome to draw MonoGame objects along with Blotch3D objects.
- All other MonoGame features are available, like audio, joysticks, etc.

Most Blotch3D and MonoGame objects must be Disposed when you are done with them and you are not otherwise terminating the program. And they must be disposed by the same thread that created them. You'll get an informative exception by the finalizer if this isn't done.

See the examples, reference documentation (doc/Blotch3DManual.pdf), and IntelliSense for more information.

## 1.6 Making and using 3D models

You can use the BIGeometry static class to make a variety of objects programmatically. See the geometry examples and that class for more information. A few primitive models are also included with Blotch3D. They can be used as is done in the examples that use them if the Blotch3D project is included in your solution and the reference's 'Copy local' flag is set.

You can also convert standard 3D model files, fonts, etc. to "XNB" files for use by your MonoGame project. The MonoGame "pipeline manager" is used to make this conversion. This is the reason the Monogame SDK must be installed rather than the NuGet package, which does not include the pipeline manager.

The Blotch3D project is already set up with the pipeline manager to convert the several primitive models to XNB files when Blotch3D is built. You can double-click "Content.mgcb" in the Blotch3D project to run the pipeline manager and add more standard files and resources and to convert to XNB outside of the build process. You can also copy an XNB file to a project's output folder, where the program can load it.

When you create a new MonoGame project with the wizard, it sets up a "Content.mgcb" file in the new project that manages your content and runs the MonoGame pipeline manager as needed or when you double-click "Content.mgcb" to add more content. That's fine for projects created with the project wizard. But it is a pain to add this feature to existing non-MonoGame projects, and certainly not necessary.

Since typically such standard file types need to be converted to XNB files only once, one can consider it a separate manual step that should be done immediately after creating, choosing, or changing the standard resource during development. For example, after creating a 3D model with a 3D modeler, run it through the pipeline manager to create your XNB file, such as the one available from the Blotch3D project. Then add that XNB file to your project and set its project properties so it is copied to the output folder for loading at run time. See <http://www.monogame.net/documentation/?page=MGCB> for more information.

To create a new model file, it is recommended you use the Blender 3D modeler. You can also instruct Blender to include texture (UV) mapping by using one of the countless tutorials online, like <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2xTzJIaKQFY> or [https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Blender\\_3D:\\_Noob\\_to\\_Pro/UV\\_Map\\_Basics](https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Blender_3D:_Noob_to_Pro/UV_Map_Basics).



## 1.7 Particles

Particle systems in Blotch3D are implemented by specifying `BISprite.FrameProc` delegates. So, particles systems are completely configurable. For example, you can implement nonlinear or abrupt changes in the particle's life or make particle trees (particles with particles). See the Particle example.

## 1.8 Custom effects

By default, Blotch3D draws sprites using a standard shader that comes with MonoGame which is managed by a `MonoGame BasicEffect` object.

Blotch3D also provides several custom shaders that are the same as that managed by `BasicEffect`, but they provide added features. To use them, you instantiate a `BIBasicEffect`, pass the shader file name to its constructor, and set it with the `SetEffect` delegate of `BISprite`. Example source code is shown below, and working examples are provided that demonstrate how to use several such custom shaders.

The custom compiled shader files for DirectX and OpenGL are in the `src/Content/Effects` folder. See below for compiling for different platforms. To use a custom shader, first copy the compiled shader file (`mgfxo` file) to your program's output folder—you might add a link to it in your project and set its build properties so it is copied to the output folder when your project builds.

When your program runs, it specifies that file name in the `BIBasicEffect` constructor (or you can manage the bytes from the file, yourself, and pass the bytes to the constructor). Then when the sprite is drawn, the effect must be specified by the sprite's `SetEffect` delegate.

A `BIBasicEffect` supports the several material and lighting parameters that are gotten from the `BISprite` material and lighting fields with a call to `BISprite.SetupBasicEffect`. But besides those, each effect also typically has certain other parameters that must be specified that control the unique feature(s) provided by the custom shader. These are set with the `BIBasicEffect.Parameters[].SetValue` method. They can be set at any time.

For example, the `BIBasicEffectAlphaTest` shader is used like this:

```
// Create a BIBasicEffect and specify the shader file (you can also specify 'BIBasicEffectAlphaTestOGL.mgfxo' if you
are on an OpenGL platform)
```

```
MyBIBasicEffectAlphaTest = new BIBasicEffect(Graphics.GraphicsDevice, "BIBasicEffectAlphaTest.mgfxo");
```

```
// Now specify the alpha threshold above which pixels should be drawn.
```

```
// This can be done at any time, including from within the below delegate
```

```
MyBIBasicEffectAlphaTest.Parameters["AlphaTestThreshold"].SetValue(.3f);
```

```
// Specify a SetEffect delegate that sets the custom effect for the sprite
```

```
MyTranslucentSprite.SetEffect = (s,effect) =>
```

```
{
```

```
// Setup the standard BasicEffect texture and lighting parameters
```

```
s.SetupBasicEffect(MyBIBasicEffectAlphaTest);
```

```
return MyBIBasicEffectAlphaTest;
```

```
};
```

The shader source code (HLSL) for each `BIBasicEffect` shader is in the same folder as the compiled shader files. It's just a copy of the original MonoGame `BasicEffect` shader code, but with a few lines added. To compile the shaders, be sure to add the path to `2MGFX.exe` to the 'path' environment variable. Typically, the path is something like `"\\Program Files (x86)\\MSBuild\\MonoGame\\v3.0\\Tools"`. Then run the `make_effects.bat` file.

You can create your own shader files that are based on `BIBasicEffect` and compile and load it as shown above. Just be sure it is based on the original HLSL code for `BasicEffect` or one of the provided custom shaders.

Documentation for individual custom shaders follow.

## 1.9 Translucency with the `BIBasicEffectAlphaTest` shader

Each pixel of a texture has a red, a green, a blue intensity value. Some textures also have an "alpha" value for each pixel, to indicate how translucent the pixel should be. Specifically, the alpha value indicates how much of any coloration behind that pixel (farther from the viewer) should show through the pixel. Alpha values of 1 indicate the texture pixel is opaque and no coloration from farther values should show through. Values of zero indicate the pixel is completely transparent.

Translucent textures drawn using the 2D Blotch3D drawing methods (`BIGraphicsDeviceManager#DrawText`, `BIGraphicsDeviceManager#DrawTexture`, and `BIGuiControl`) or any MonoGame 2D drawing methods (for example, by use of MonoGame's `SpriteBatch` class) will always correctly show the things behind them according to the pixel's alpha channel as long as they are called after all other 3D things are drawn.

But translucent textures applied to a 3D sprite may require special handling.

If you simply apply the translucent texture to a sprite as if it's just like any other texture, you will not see through the translucent pixels when they happen to be chronologically drawn *before* anything farther away, because drawing a surface also updates the depth buffer (see *Depth Buffer* in the glossary). Since the depth buffer records the nearer pixel, it prevents further pixels from being drawn afterward. For some translucent textures the artifacts can be negligible, or your particular application may avoid the artifacts entirely because of camera constraints, sprite position constraints, and drawing order. In those cases, you don't need any other special code. We do this in the "full" example because the draw order of the translucent sprites and their positions are such that the artifacts aren't visible. (Note: subsprites are drawn in the order of their names.)

One way to mitigate most of these artifacts is by using alpha testing. Alpha testing is the process of completely neglecting to draw transparent texture pixels, and thus neglecting to update the depth buffer at that window pixel. Most typical textures with an alpha channel use an alpha value of only zero or one (or close to them), indicating absence or presence of visible pixels. Alpha testing works well with textures like that. For alpha values specifically intended to show partial translucency (alpha values nearer to 0.5), it doesn't work well. In those cases, you can either live with the artifacts, or beyond that at a minimum you will have to control translucent sprite drawing order (draw all opaque sprites normally, and then draw translucent sprites far to near), which will take care of all artifacts except those that occur when sprites intersect or two surfaces of a single sprite occupy the same screen pixel. For some scenes it might be worth it to draw translucent sprites without updating the depth buffer at all (do a `GraphicsDevice.DepthStencilState = GraphicsDevice.DepthStencilState.Disabled` in the `BISprite.PreDraw` delegate, and set it back to `DepthStencilState.Enabled` in the `BISprite.DrawCleanup` delegate). These are only partial solutions to the alpha problem and still may exhibit various artifacts. You can look online for more advanced solutions.

The default MonoGame "Effect" used to draw models (the "BasicEffect" effect) uses a pixel shader that does not do alpha testing. MonoGame does provide a separate "AlphaTestEffect" effect that supports alpha test. But `AlphaTestEffect` is *not* based on `BasicEffect` (and therefore must be handled differently in code), and does not support directional lights, as are supported in `BasicEffect`. So, don't bother with `AlphaTestEffect` unless you don't care about the directional lights (i.e. you are using only emission lighting). (If you do want to use `AlphaTestEffect`, see online for details.)

For these reasons Blotch3D includes a custom shader file called `BIBasicEffectAlphaTest` (to be managed with a `BIBasicEffect` object) that provides everything that MonoGame's `BasicEffect` provides, but also provides alpha testing. Set its "AlphaTestThreshold" to specify what alpha value merits drawing the pixel. See the [Custom effects](#) section and the `SpriteAlphaTexture` example for details.

## 1.10 Dynamically creating an alpha channel with the `BIBasicEffectClipColor` shader

Blotch3D includes a `BIBasicEffectClipColor` shader ("`BIBasicEffectClipColor.mgfxo`" and "`BIBasicEffectClipColor.OGL.mgfxo`" for OpenGL), which "creates" its own alpha channel from a specified texture color. Use it with non-translucent textures for which you want some translucency. Use it like `BIBasicEffectAlphaTest` but instead of setting the `AlphaTestThreshold` variable, set the `ClipColor` and `ClipColorTolerance` variables. `ClipColor` is the texture color

that should indicate transparency (a `Vector3` or `Vector4`), and `ClipColorTolerance` is a float that indicates how close to `ClipColor` (0 to .999) the texture color must be to cause transparency (specifically, it's a threshold of the square of the difference between pixel color and `ClipColor`). `BlBasicEffectClipColor` is especially useful for videos that neglected to include an alpha channel.

See the [Translucency with the `BlBasicEffectAlphaTest` shader](#) section for an introduction to alpha and alpha testing, and see the [Custom effects](#) section for details on using a custom effect.

## 1.11 Transforming textures with the `BlBasicEffectAlphaTestXformTex` shader

The `BlBasicEffectAlphaTestXformTex` shader ("`BlBasicEffectAlphaTestXformTex.mgfxo`" and "`BlBasicEffectAlphaTestXformTexOGL.mgfxo`" for OpenGL) does the same thing as `BlBasicEffectAlphaTest` but adds a feature that lets you transform the texture on the surface of the sprite.

Parameters are `AlphaTestThreshold` (same as used by the `BlBasicEffectAlphaTest` shader), `TextureTranslate` (a `Vector2` that translates the texture), and `TextureTransform` (a 2x2 matrix that transforms the texture, specified as a `Vector4` because there is no 2x2 matrix in MonoGame).

See the `TextureTransform` example and the [Custom effects](#) section for details.

(Note: To make room for the required extra arithmetic operations, the code from the original `BasicEffect` for pixel lighting [an advanced form of bump mapping] has been removed from this shader.)

## 1.12 Setting and dynamically changing a sprite's scale, orientation, and position

Each sprite has a "Matrix" member that defines its orientation, scale, position, etc. relative to its parent sprite, or to an unmodified coordinate system if there is no parent. There are many static and instance methods of the `Matrix` class that let you easily set and change the scaling, position, rotation, etc. of a matrix.

When you change anything about a sprite's matrix, you also change it for its child sprites, if any. That is, subsprites reside in the parent sprite's coordinate system. For example, if a child sprite's matrix scales it by 3, and its parent sprite's matrix scales by 4, then the child sprite will be scaled by 12 in world space. Likewise, rotation, shear, and position are inherited, as well.

There are also static and instance `Matrix` methods and operator overloads to "multiply" matrices to form a single matrix which combines the effects of multiple matrices. For example, a rotate matrix and a scale matrix can be multiplied to form a single rotate-scale matrix. But mind the multiplication order because matrix multiplication is not commutative. See below for details, but novices can simply try the operation one way (like A times B) and if it doesn't work as desired, it can be done the other way (B times A).

For a good introduction without the math, see <http://rbwhitaker.wikidot.com/monogame-basic-matrices>.

The following [Matrix internals](#) section should be studied only when you need a deeper knowledge.

## 1.13 Matrix internals

Here we'll introduce the internals of 2D matrices. 3D matrices simply have one more dimension.

Let's imagine a model that has one vertex at (4,1) and another vertex at (3,3). (This is a very simple model comprised of only two vertices!)

You can move the model by moving each of those vertices by the same amount, and without regard to where each is relative to the origin. To do that, just add an offset vector to each vertex. For example, we could add the vector (0.2, 0.1) to each of those original vertices, which would result in final model vertices of (4.2, 1.1) and (3.2, 3.1). In that case we have *translated* (moved) the model.

Matrices certainly support translation. But first let's talk about moving a vertex *relative to its current position from the origin*, because that's what gives matrices the power to also shear, rotate, and scale a model about the origin. This is because those operations affect each vertex differently depending on its relationship to the origin. (And since matrices can be combined by multiplying them, we can, for example, rotate a matrix in the model coordinate system, and then translate it to a world coordinate system so that it rotates around its own model origin.)

If we want to scale (stretch) the X relative to the origin, we can multiply the X of each vertex by 2.

For example,

$X' = 2X$  (where X is the initial value, and X' is the final value)

... which, when applied to each vertex, would change the above vertices from (4,1) and (3,3) to (8,1) and (6,3).

We might want to define how to change each X according to the original X value of each vertex *and also according to the original Y value*, like this:

$$X' = aX + bY$$

For example, if  $a=0$  and  $b=1$ , then this would set the new X of each vertex to its original Y value.

Finally, we might also want to define how to create a new Y for each vertex according to its original X and original Y. So, the equations for both the new X and new Y are:

$$X' = aX + bY$$

$$Y' = cX + dY$$

(Remember, the idea is to apply this to every vertex.)

By convention we might write the four matrix constants (a, b, c, and d) in a 2x2 matrix, like this:

a b

c d

This should all be very easy to understand.

But why are we even talking about it? Because now we can define the elements of a matrix that, if applied to each vertex of a model, define any type of *transform* in the position and orientation of that model.

For example, if we apply the following matrix to each of the model's vertices:

1 0

0 1

...then the vertices are unchanged, because...

$$X' = 1X + 0Y$$

$$Y' = 0X + 1Y$$

...sets  $X'$  to  $X$  and  $Y'$  to  $Y$ .

This matrix is called the *identity* matrix because the output  $(X',Y')$  is the same as the input  $(X,Y)$ .

We can create matrices that scale, shear, and even rotate points. To make a model three times as large (relative to the origin), use the matrix:

$$3 \ 0$$

$$0 \ 3$$

To scale only  $X$  by 3 (stretch a model in the  $X$  direction about the origin), then use the matrix:

$$3 \ 0$$

$$0 \ 1$$

The following matrix flips (mirrors) the model vertically about the origin:

$$1 \ 0$$

$$0 \ -1$$

Below is a matrix to rotate a model counterclockwise by 90 degrees about the origin:

$$0 \ -1$$

$$1 \ 0$$

Here is a matrix that rotates a model counterclockwise by 45 degrees about the origin:

$$0.707 \ -0.707$$

$$0.707 \ 0.707$$

Note that '0.707' is the sine of 45 degrees, or cosine of 45 degrees.

A matrix can be created to rotate any amount about any axis.

(The `Matrix` class provides functions that make it easy to create a rotation matrix from a rotation axis and angle, or pitch and yaw and roll, or something called a quaternion, since otherwise we'd have to call sine and cosine functions, ourselves, to create the matrix elements.)

Since we often also want to translate (move) points *without* regard to their current distances from the origin as we did at the beginning of this section, we add more numbers to the matrix just for that purpose. And since many mathematical operations on matrices work only if the matrix has the same number of rows as columns, we add more elements simply to make the rows and columns the same size. And since Blotch3D/MonoGame works in 3-space, we add even more numbers to handle the  $Z$  dimension. So, the final matrix size in 3D graphics is 4x4.

Specifically:

$$X' = aX + bY + cZ + d$$

$$Y' = eX + fY + gZ + h$$

$$Z' = iX + jY + kZ + l$$

$$W = mX + nY + oZ + p$$

(Consider the W as unused, for now.)

Notice that the d, h, and l are the translation vector.

Rather than using the above 16 letters ('a' through 'p') for the matrix elements, the Matrix class in MonoGame uses the following field names:

M11 M12 M13 M14

M21 M22 M23 M24

M31 M32 M33 M34

M41 M42 M43 M44

Besides the ability to multiply entire matrices (as mentioned at the beginning of this section), you can also divide (i.e. multiply by a matrix inverse) matrices to, for example, solve for a matrix that was used in a previous matrix multiply, or otherwise isolate one operation from another. Welcome to linear algebra! The Matrix class provides matrix multiply, inversion, etc. methods. If you are interested in how the individual matrix elements are processed to perform matrix arithmetic, please look it up online.

As was previously mentioned, each sprite has a matrix describing how that sprite and its children are transformed from the parent sprite's coordinate system. Specifically, Blotch3D does a matrix-multiply of the parent's matrix with the child's matrix to create the final ("absolute") matrix used to draw that child, and that matrix is also used as the parent matrix for the subsprites of that child.

## 1.14 A Short Glossary of 3D Graphics Terms

### Polygon

A visible surface described by a set of vertices that define its corners. A triangle is a polygon with three vertices, a quad is a polygon with four. One side of a polygon is a "face".

### Vertex

A point in space. Typically, a point at which the line segments of a polygon meet. That is, a corner of a polygon. A corner of a model. Most visible models are described as a set of vertices. Each vertex can have a color, texture coordinate, and normal. Pixels across the face of a polygon are (typically) interpolated from the vertex color, texture, and normal values.

### Ambient lighting

A 3D scene has one ambient light setting. The intensity of ambient lighting on the surface of a polygon is unrelated to the orientation of the polygon or the camera.

### Diffuse lighting

Directional or point source lighting. You can have multiple directional or point light sources. Its intensity depends on the orientation of the polygon relative to the light.

### Texture

A 2D image applied to the surface of a model. For this to work, each vertex of the model must have a texture coordinate associated with it, which is an X,Y coordinate of the 2D bitmap image that should be aligned with that vertex. Pixels across the surface of a polygon are interpolated from the texture coordinates specified for each vertex. To discriminate a texture's (X,Y) coordinate from a vertex's 3D (X, Y, Z) coordinate, texture (X,Y) is more often called the texture's (U,V) coordinate.

### Normal

In mathematics, the word "normal" means a vector that is perpendicular to a surface. In 3D graphics, "normal" means a vector that indicates from what direction light will cause a surface to be brightest. Normally they would mean the same thing. However, by defining a normal at some angle other than perpendicular, you can somewhat cause the illusion that a surface lies at a different angle. Each vertex of a polygon has a normal vector associated with it and the brightness across the surface of a polygon is interpolated from the normals of its vertices. So, a single flat polygon can have a gradient of brightness across it giving the illusion of curvature. In this way a model composed of fewer polygons can still be made to look quite smooth.

### X-axis

The axis that extends right from the origin in an untransformed coordinate system.

### Y-axis

The axis that extends forward from the origin in an untransformed coordinate system.

### Z-axis

The axis that extends up from the origin in an untransformed coordinate system.

### Origin

The center of a coordinate system. The point in the coordinate system that is, by definition, at (0,0,0).

### Translation

Movement. The placing of something at a different location from its original location.

### Rotation

The circular movement of each vertex of a model about the same axis.

### Scale

A change in the width, height, and/or depth of a model.

### Shear (skew)

A pulling of one side of a model in one direction, and the opposite side in the opposite direction, without rotation, such that the model is distorted rather than rotated. A parallelogram is a rectangle that has experienced shear. If you apply another shear along an orthogonal axis of the first shear, you rotate the model.

### Yaw

Rotation about the Y-axis

### Pitch

Rotation about the X-axis, after any Yaw has been applied.

## Roll

Rotation about the Z-axis, after any Pitch has been applied.

## Euler angles

The yaw, pitch, and roll of a model, applied in that order.

## Matrix

An array of numbers that can describe a difference, or transform, in one coordinate system from another. Each sprite has a matrix that defines its location, rotation, scale, shear etc. within the coordinate system of its parent sprite, or within an untransformed coordinate system if there is no parent. See [Dynamically changing a sprite's orientation and position](#).

## Frame

In this document, 'frame' is analogous to a movie frame. A moving 3D scene is created by drawing successive frames.

## Depth buffer

3D systems typically keep track of the depth of the polygon surface (if any) at each 2D window pixel so that they know to draw the nearer pixel over the farther pixel in the 2D display. The depth buffer is an array with one element per 2D window pixel, where each element is (typically) a 32-bit floating point value indicating the last drawn nearest (to the camera) depth of that point. In that way pixels that are farther away need not be drawn. NearClip defines the nearest distance kept track of, and FarClip defines the farthest (objects outside that range are not drawn). If the range is too large, then limited floating point resolution in the 32-bit distance value will cause artifacts. See the troubleshooting question about depth. You can disable the depth testing for special cases (see the troubleshooting question about disabling the depth buffer). See `BlGraphicsDeviceManager.NearClip`, `BlGraphicsDeviceManager.FarClip`. and search the web for MonoGame depth information.

## Near clipping plane (`BlGraphicsDeviceManager.NearClip`)

The distance from the camera at which a depth buffer element is equal to zero. Nearer surfaces are not drawn.

## Far clipping plane (`BlGraphicsDeviceManager.FarClip`)

The distance from the camera at which a depth buffer element is equal to the maximum possible floating-point value. Farther surfaces are not drawn.

## Model space

The untransformed three-dimensional space that models are initially created/defined in. Typically, a model is centered on the origin of its model space.

## World space

The three-dimensional space that you see through the two-dimensional screen window. A model is transformed from model space to world space by its final matrix (that is, the matrix we get *after* a sprite's matrix is multiplied by its parent sprite matrices, if any).

## View space

The two-dimensional space of the window on the screen. Objects in world space are transformed by the view matrix and projection matrix to produce the contents of the window. You don't have to understand the view and projection matrices, though, because there are higher-level functions that control them—like Zoom, aspect ratio, and camera position and orientation functions.



## 1.15 Troubleshooting

Q: When I set a billboard attribute of a flat sprite (like a plane), I can no longer see it.

A: Perhaps the billboard orientation is such that you are looking at the plane from the side or back. Try setting a rotation in the sprite's matrix (and make sure it doesn't just rotate it on the axis intersecting your eye point).

Q: When I'm inside a sprite, I can't see it.

A: By default, Blotch3D draws only the outside of a sprite. Try putting a `"Graphics.GraphicsDevice.RasterizerState = RasterizerState.CullClockwise"` (or set it to `CullNone` to see both the inside and outside) in the `BISprite.PreDraw` delegate, and set it back to `CullCounterClockwise` in the `BISprite.DrawCleanup` delegate.

Q: I set a sprite's matrix so that one of the dimensions has a scale of zero, but then the sprite, or parts of it, become black.

A: A sprite's matrix also affects its normals. By setting a dimension's scale to zero, you may have caused some of the normals to be zeroed-out or made invalid. Try setting the scale to a very small number, rather than zero.

Q: When I am zoomed-in a very large amount, sprite and camera movement jumps as the sprite or camera move.

A: You are experiencing floating point precision errors in the positioning algorithms. About all you can do is "fake" being that zoomed in by, instead, moving the camera forward temporarily. Or simply don't allow zoom to go to that extreme.

Q: Sometimes I see slightly farther polygons and parts of polygons of sprites appear in front of nearer ones, and it varies as the camera or sprite moves.

A: The floating-point precision limitation of the depth buffer can cause this. Disable or set limits on auto-clipping in one or both of `NearClip` and `FarClip`, and otherwise try increasing your near clip and/or decreasing your far clip so the depth buffer doesn't have to cover so much dynamic range.

Q: I have a sprite that I want always to be visible, but I think its invisible because its outside the depth buffer, but I don't want to change the clipping planes just for that sprite (`NearClip` and `FarClip`).

A: Try disabling the depth buffer just for that sprite with a `"Graphics.GraphicsDevice.DepthStencilState = Graphics.DepthStencilState.Disabled"` in the `BISprite.PreDraw` delegate, and set it back to `DepthStencilState.Enabled` in the `BISprite.DrawCleanup` delegate.

Q: I'm moving or rotating a sprite regularly over many frames by multiplying its matrix with a matrix that represents the change per frame, but after a while the sprite gets distorted or drifts from its predicted position, location, rotation, etc.

A: When you multiply two matrices, you introduce a very slight floating-point inaccuracy in the resulting matrix because floating-point values have a limited number of bits. Normally the inaccuracy is too small to matter. But if you repeatedly do it to the same matrix, it will eventually become noticeable. Try changing your math so that a new matrix is created from scratch each frame, or at least created every several hundred frames. For example, let's say you want to slightly rotate a sprite every frame by the same amount. You can either create a new rotation matrix from scratch every frame from a simple float scalar angle value you are regularly incrementing, or you can multiply the existing matrix by a persistent rotation matrix you created initially. The former method is more precise, but the latter is less CPU intensive because creating a rotation matrix requires that transcendental functions be called, but multiplying existing matrices does not. A good compromise is to use a combination of both, if possible. Specifically, multiply by a rotation matrix most of the time, but on occasion recreate the sprite's matrix directly from the scalar angle value.

Q: I'm using `SetCameraToSprite` to implement cockpit view, but when the sprite moves, the camera lags from the sprite's position.

A: It's a chicken and egg problem. The sprite must be moved *before* moving the camera to its position, but the camera must be moved *before* showing the sprite's latest position. The only way to fix this is to set the sprite's position without showing (drawing) it, then call `SetCameraToSprite`, then draw everything. If you want to attach the camera to a child sprite, you might want to disable any time-consuming tasks in drawing things when you only want to calculate the sprite's position without drawing it, then when it comes time to draw things, enable them.

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## Chapter 2

# Namespace Index

### 2.1 Packages

Here are the packages with brief descriptions (if available):

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----------------------------------	--------------------



## Chapter 3

# Hierarchical Index

### 3.1 Class Hierarchy

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## Chapter 4

# Class Index

### 4.1 Class List

Here are the classes, structs, unions and interfaces with brief descriptions:

<a href="#">Blotch.BIBasicEffect</a>	Holds a Blotch3D custom effect (like <a href="#">BIBasicEffectAlphaTest</a> and <a href="#">BIBasicEffectClipColor</a> ) that is exactly like MonoGame's <a href="#">BasicEffect</a> but with certain added features. To make a <a href="#">BIBasicEffect</a> , you must pass the mgfxo file name, or a byte array of its contents, to the constructor. See the <a href="#">SpriteAlphaTexture</a> example and the section on Translucency for details on how to make and use objects of this class. . . . .	25
<a href="#">Blotch.BIGraphicsDeviceManager</a>	This holds everything having to do with an output device. <a href="#">BIWindow3D</a> creates one of these for itself. This derives from MonoGame <a href="#">GraphicsDeviceManager</a> . . . . .	30
<a href="#">Blotch.BIGuiControl</a>	A 2D GUI control. To create a GUI control: instantiate one of these, set its initial Texture, window position, and delegate, and then add it to <a href="#">BIWindow3D::GuiControls</a> . (Any member can be dynamically changed.) The texture will be displayed, and then each frame the mouse is over it the delegate will be called. The delegate typically would examine the current mouse state ( <a href="#">Mouse.GetState()</a> ) and the <a href="#">PrevMouseState</a> member to detect button changes, etc. and perform an action. The delegate is called in the context of the window's 3D thread after the <a href="#">BIWindow3D::FrameProc</a> method. . . . .	47
<a href="#">Blotch.BIMipmap</a>	A <a href="#">BIMipmap</a> holds a list of different resolutions of a texture, where one is applied to a sprite, depending on the <a href="#">ApparentSize</a> of that sprite. You would assign it to a <a href="#">BISprite::Mipmap</a> . Note that this is a software mipmap (i.e. it isn't implemented in the 3D hardware). That is, unlike a hardware mipmap where different resolutions of the texture may appear on different parts of the sprite, only one resolution texture is used at time. . . . .	50
<a href="#">Blotch.BISprite</a>	A <a href="#">BISprite</a> is a single 3D object. Each sprite can also hold any number of subsprites, so you can make a sprite tree (a scene graph). Subsprites are drawn in the order of their sorted names. Child sprites 'follow' the orientation and position of the parent sprite. That is, they exist in the coordinate system of the parent sprite. The location and orientation of a sprite in its parent's coordinate system is defined by the sprite's <a href="#">Matrix</a> member. Subsprites, <a href="#">LODs</a> , and <a href="#">Mipmap</a> are NOT disposed when the sprite is disposed, so you can assign the same one to multiple sprites. . . . .	51

[Blotch.BIWindow3D](#)

To make a 3D window, you must derive a class from [BIWindow3D](#) and override the [Setup](#), [FrameProc](#), and [FrameDraw](#) methods. When it comes time to open the 3D window, you instantiate that class and call its “Run” method from the same thread that instantiated it. The Run method will call the [Setup](#), [FrameProc](#), and [FrameDraw](#) methods when appropriate, and not return until the window closes. All code that accesses 3D resources must be done in that thread, including code that creates and uses all Blotch3D and MonoGame objects. Note that this rule also applies to any code structure that may internally use other threads, as well. Do not use Parallel, async, etc. code structures that access 3D resources. Other threads that need to access 3D resources can do so by passing a delegate to [EnqueueCommand](#) and [EnqueueCommandBlocking](#). . . . 71

[Blotch.BIGraphicsDeviceManager.Light](#)

Defines a light. See the [Lights](#) field. The default BasicShader supports up to three lights. . . . 77



## Chapter 5

# Namespace Documentation

### 5.1 Blotch Namespace Reference

#### Classes

- class [BlBasicEffect](#)

*Holds a Blotch3D custom effect (like [BlBasicEffectAlphaTest](#) and [BlBasicEffectClipColor](#)) that is exactly like MonoGame's [BasicEffect](#) but with certain added features. To make a [BlBasicEffect](#), you must pass the mgfxo file name, or a byte array of its contents, to the constructor. See the [SpriteAlphaTexture](#) example and the section on Translucency for details on how to make and use objects of this class.*

- class [BlDebug](#)

*This static class holds the debug flags. Many flags are initialized according to whether its a Debug build or Release build. Some flags enable exceptions for probable errors, and many flags cause warning messages to be sent to the console window, if there is one. For this reason you should first test your app as a debug build console app.*

- class [BlEffectHelpers](#)

*Helper code shared between the various built-in effects.*

- class [BlGeometry](#)

*Methods and helpers for creating various geometric objects. These methods create and manage regular (rectangular) grids of vertices as a flattened row-major array (if indexed as [y, x]) of [VertexPositionNormalTexture\[\]](#), triangle arrays (also as a [VertexPositionNormalTexture\[\]](#)), and [VertexBuffers](#). You can concatenate multiple regular grids to produce one regular grid if they have the same number of columns, and you can concatenate multiple triangle arrays to produce one triangle array. If you are confused by this, see the examples. You can transform either type of array with [TransformVertices](#). You can create smooth normals for a regular grid and facet normals for a triangle array. You can set texture (UV) coordinates. You can convert a regular grid to a triangle array. Finally, you can convert a triangle array to a [VertexBuffer](#) suitable for adding to a [BlSprite.LODs](#) field.*

- class [BlGraphicsDeviceManager](#)

*This holds everything having to do with an output device. [BlWindow3D](#) creates one of these for itself. This derives from [MonoGame.GraphicsDeviceManager](#).*

- class [BlGuiControl](#)

*A 2D GUI control. To create a GUI control: instantiate one of these, set its initial [Texture](#), window position, and delegate, and then add it to [BlWindow3D::GuiControls](#). (Any member can be dynamically changed.) The texture will be displayed, and then each frame the mouse is over it the delegate will be called. The delegate typically would examine the current mouse state ([Mouse.GetState\(\)](#)) and the [PrevMouseState](#) member to detect button changes, etc. and perform an action. The delegate is called in the context of the window's 3D thread after the [BlWindow3D::FrameProc](#) method.*

- class [BlMipmap](#)

*A [BlMipmap](#) holds a list of different resolutions of a texture, where one is applied to a sprite, depending on the [ApparentSize](#) of that sprite. You would assign it to a [BlSprite::Mipmap](#). Note that this is a software mipmap (i.e. it isn't implemented in the 3D hardware). That is, unlike a hardware mipmap where different resolutions of the texture may appear on different parts of the sprite, only one resolution texture is used at time.*

- class [BISprite](#)

A [BISprite](#) is a single 3D object. Each sprite can also hold any number of subsprites, so you can make a sprite tree (a scene graph). Subsprites are drawn in the order of their sorted names. Child sprites 'follow' the orientation and position of the parent sprite. That is, they exist in the coordinate system of the parent sprite. The location and orientation of a sprite in its parent's coordinate system is defined by the sprite's [Matrix](#) member. Subsprites, [LODs](#), and [Mipmap](#) are NOT disposed when the sprite is disposed, so you can assign the same one to multiple sprites.

- class [BIWindow3D](#)

To make a 3D window, you must derive a class from [BIWindow3D](#) and override the [Setup](#), [FrameProc](#), and [FrameDraw](#) methods. When it comes time to open the 3D window, you instantiate that class and call its "Run" method from the same thread that instantiated it. The Run method will call the [Setup](#), [FrameProc](#), and [FrameDraw](#) methods when appropriate, and not return until the window closes. All code that accesses 3D resources must be done in that thread, including code that creates and uses all [Blotch3D](#) and [MonoGame](#) objects. Note that this rule also applies to any code structure that may internally use other threads, as well. Do not use [Parallel](#), [async](#), etc. code structures that access 3D resources. Other threads that need to access 3D resources can do so by passing a delegate to [EnqueueCommand](#) and [EnqueueCommandBlocking](#).

## Chapter 6

# Class Documentation

### 6.1 Blotch.BIBasicEffect Class Reference

Holds a Blotch3D custom effect (like `BIBasicEffectAlphaTest` and `BIBasicEffectClipColor`) that is exactly like MonoGame's `BasicEffect` but with certain added features. To make a `BIBasicEffect`, you must pass the `mgfxo` file name, or a byte array of its contents, to the constructor. See the `SpriteAlphaTexture` example and the section on Translucency for details on how to make and use objects of this class.

Inheritance diagram for `Blotch.BIBasicEffect`:



#### Public Member Functions

- `BIBasicEffect` (`GraphicsDevice` device, string filename)  
*Creates a new `BIBasicEffect` with default parameter settings. See class description for more info.*
- `BIBasicEffect` (`GraphicsDevice` device, `byte[]` bytes)  
*Creates a new `BIBasicEffect` with default parameter settings. See class description for more info.*
- override `Effect Clone` ()  
*Creates a clone of the current `BasicEffect` instance.*
- void `EnableDefaultLighting` ()

#### Protected Member Functions

- `BIBasicEffect` (`BIBasicEffect` cloneSource)  
*Creates a new `BIBasicEffect` by cloning parameter settings from an existing instance.*
- override void `OnApply` ()  
*Lazily computes derived parameter values immediately before applying the effect.*

## Properties

- Matrix [World](#) [get, set]  
*Gets or sets the world matrix.*
- Matrix [View](#) [get, set]  
*Gets or sets the view matrix.*
- Matrix [Projection](#) [get, set]  
*Gets or sets the projection matrix.*
- Vector3 [DiffuseColor](#) [get, set]  
*Gets or sets the material diffuse color (range 0 to 1).*
- Vector3 [EmissiveColor](#) [get, set]  
*Gets or sets the material emissive color (range 0 to 1).*
- Vector3 [SpecularColor](#) [get, set]  
*Gets or sets the material specular color (range 0 to 1).*
- float [SpecularPower](#) [get, set]  
*Gets or sets the material specular power.*
- float [Alpha](#) [get, set]  
*Gets or sets the material alpha.*
- bool [LightingEnabled](#) [get, set]
- bool [PreferPerPixelLighting](#) [get, set]  
*Gets or sets the per-pixel lighting prefer flag.*
- Vector3 [AmbientLightColor](#) [get, set]
- DirectionalLight [DirectionalLight0](#) [get]
- DirectionalLight [DirectionalLight1](#) [get]
- DirectionalLight [DirectionalLight2](#) [get]
- bool [FogEnabled](#) [get, set]
- float [FogStart](#) [get, set]
- float [FogEnd](#) [get, set]
- Vector3 [FogColor](#) [get, set]
- bool [TextureEnabled](#) [get, set]  
*Gets or sets whether texturing is enabled.*
- Texture2D [Texture](#) [get, set]  
*Gets or sets the current texture.*
- bool [VertexColorEnabled](#) [get, set]  
*Gets or sets whether vertex color is enabled.*

### 6.1.1 Detailed Description

Holds a Blotch3D custom effect (like [BIBasicEffectAlphaTest](#) and [BIBasicEffectClipColor](#)) that is exactly like MonoGame's [BasicEffect](#) but with certain added features. To make a [BIBasicEffect](#), you must pass the mgfxo file name, or a byte array of its contents, to the constructor. See the [SpriteAlphaTexture](#) example and the section on Translucency for details on how to make and use objects of this class.

### 6.1.2 Constructor & Destructor Documentation

#### 6.1.2.1 BIBasicEffect() [1/3]

```
Blotch.BIBasicEffect.BIBasicEffect (
    GraphicsDevice device,
    string filename )
```

Creates a new [BIBasicEffect](#) with default parameter settings. See class description for more info.

#### 6.1.2.2 BIBasicEffect() [2/3]

```
Blotch.BIBasicEffect.BIBasicEffect (
    GraphicsDevice device,
    byte [] bytes )
```

Creates a new [BIBasicEffect](#) with default parameter settings. See class description for more info.

#### 6.1.2.3 BIBasicEffect() [3/3]

```
Blotch.BIBasicEffect.BIBasicEffect (
    BIBasicEffect cloneSource ) [protected]
```

Creates a new [BIBasicEffect](#) by cloning parameter settings from an existing instance.

### 6.1.3 Member Function Documentation

#### 6.1.3.1 Clone()

```
override Effect Blotch.BIBasicEffect.Clone ( )
```

Creates a clone of the current BasicEffect instance.

#### 6.1.3.2 OnApply()

```
override void Blotch.BIBasicEffect.OnApply ( ) [protected]
```

Lazily computes derived parameter values immediately before applying the effect.

### 6.1.4 Property Documentation

#### 6.1.4.1 Alpha

```
float Blotch.BlBasicEffect.Alpha [get], [set]
```

Gets or sets the material alpha.

#### 6.1.4.2 DiffuseColor

```
Vector3 Blotch.BlBasicEffect.DiffuseColor [get], [set]
```

Gets or sets the material diffuse color (range 0 to 1).

#### 6.1.4.3 EmissiveColor

```
Vector3 Blotch.BlBasicEffect.EmissiveColor [get], [set]
```

Gets or sets the material emissive color (range 0 to 1).

#### 6.1.4.4 PreferPerPixelLighting

```
bool Blotch.BlBasicEffect.PreferPerPixelLighting [get], [set]
```

Gets or sets the per-pixel lighting prefer flag.

#### 6.1.4.5 Projection

```
Matrix Blotch.BlBasicEffect.Projection [get], [set]
```

Gets or sets the projection matrix.

#### 6.1.4.6 SpecularColor

```
Vector3 Blotch.BlBasicEffect.SpecularColor [get], [set]
```

Gets or sets the material specular color (range 0 to 1).

#### 6.1.4.7 SpecularPower

```
float Blotch.BlBasicEffect.SpecularPower [get], [set]
```

Gets or sets the material specular power.

#### 6.1.4.8 Texture

```
Texture2D Blotch.BlBasicEffect.Texture [get], [set]
```

Gets or sets the current texture.

#### 6.1.4.9 TextureEnabled

```
bool Blotch.BlBasicEffect.TextureEnabled [get], [set]
```

Gets or sets whether texturing is enabled.

#### 6.1.4.10 VertexColorEnabled

```
bool Blotch.BlBasicEffect.VertexColorEnabled [get], [set]
```

Gets or sets whether vertex color is enabled.

#### 6.1.4.11 View

```
Matrix Blotch.BlBasicEffect.View [get], [set]
```

Gets or sets the view matrix.

#### 6.1.4.12 World

```
Matrix Blotch.BlBasicEffect.World [get], [set]
```

Gets or sets the world matrix.

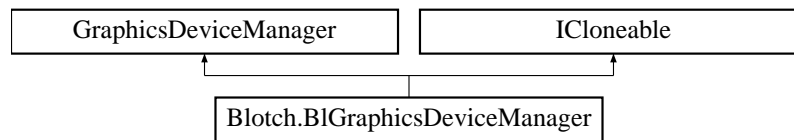
The documentation for this class was generated from the following file:

- C:/Users/kloum/Desktop/Source/Blotch3D/src/BlBasicEffect.cs

## 6.2 Blotch.BIGraphicsDeviceManager Class Reference

This holds everything having to do with an output device. [BIWindow3D](#) creates one of these for itself. This derives from MonoGame GraphicsDeviceManager.

Inheritance diagram for Blotch.BIGraphicsDeviceManager:



### Classes

- class [Light](#)  
Defines a light. See the [Lights](#) field. The default BasicShader supports up to three lights.

### Public Member Functions

- [BIGraphicsDeviceManager](#) ([BIWindow3D](#) window)
- void [Initialize](#) ()  
For internal use only. Apps should not normally call this. This initializes some values AFTER the [BIWindow3D](#) has been created.
- void [ExtendClippingTo](#) ([BISprite](#) s)  
Informs the auto-clipping code of an object that should be visible within the clipping limits. This is mainly for internal use. Application code should control clipping with NearClip and FarClip.
- void [SetSpriteToCamera](#) ([BISprite](#) sprite)  
Sets a sprite's [BISprite::Matrix](#) to the current camera position and orientation. You could use this to implement a HUD, for example. Note: This only works correctly if the sprite has no parent (and is thus drawn directly) or it's parents are untransformed. If all you want is to set the sprite's position (but NOT orientation) to the camera, then set the sprite's [Matrix.Translation](#) = [graphics.Eye](#)
- void [SetCameraToSprite](#) ([BISprite](#) sprite)  
Sets the camera position and orientation to the current position and orientation of a sprite. You could use for cockpit view, for example. Note that the camera will lag sprite movement unless the following is done: For every frame you must first calculate the sprite's position and orientation, call this function, and then draw everything.
- void [AdjustCameraZoom](#) (double dif)  
Sets the [Zoom](#). If dif is zero, then there is no change in zoom. Normally one would set zoom with the Zoom field. This is mainly for internal use.
- void [AdjustCameraDolly](#) (double dif)  
Migrates the current camera dolly (distance from [LookAt](#)) according to dif. If dif is zero, then there is no change in dolly.
- void [AdjustCameraTruck](#) (double difX, double difY=0)  
Adjusts camera truck (movement relative to camera direction) according to difX and difY. If difX and difY are zero, then truck position isn't changed.
- void [AdjustCameraRotation](#) (double difX, double difY=0)  
Adjusts camera rotation about the [LookAt](#) point according to difX and difY. If difX and difY are zero, then rotation isn't changed.
- void [AdjustCameraPan](#) (double difX, double difY=0)  
Adjusts camera pan (changing direction of camera) according to difX and difY. If difX and difY are zero, then pan direction isn't changed.
- Ray [DoDefaultGui](#) ()



Updates [Eye](#), [LookAt](#), etc. according to mouse and certain key input. Specifically: Wheel=Dolly, CTRL-wheel=Zoom, Left-drag=Truck, Right-drag=Rotate, CTRL-left-drag=Pan, Esc=Reset. Also, SHIFT causes all the previous controls to be fine rather than coarse. If CTRL is pressed and mouse left or right button is clicked, then returns a ray into window at mouse position. To control each camera attribute individually and programatically or override the GUI controls, use [AdjustCameraZoom](#), [AdjustCameraDolly](#), [AdjustCameraRotation](#), [AdjustCameraPan](#), [AdjustCameraTruck](#), [ResetCamera](#), and/or [SetCameraToSprite](#). Or see the more basic fields of [Zoom](#), [Aspect](#), [TargetEye](#), and [TargetLookAt](#).

- void [ResetCamera](#) ()  
Sets [Eye](#), [LookAt](#), etc. back to default starting position.
- void [SetCameraRollToZero](#) ()  
Sets the camera 'roll' to be level with the XY plane
- Ray [CalculateRay](#) (Vector2 windowPosition)  
Returns a ray that goes from the near clipping plane to the far clipping plane, at the specified window position.
- Vector3 [GetWindowCoordinates](#) (BISprite sprite)  
Returns the window coordinates of the specified sprite.
- Texture2D [TextToTexture](#) (string text, SpriteFont font, Microsoft.Xna.Framework.Color? color=null, Microsoft.Xna.Framework.Color? backColor=null)  
Returns a Texture2D containing the specified text. It's up to the caller to Dispose the returned texture.
- void [DrawTexture](#) (Texture2D texture, Rectangle windowRect, Microsoft.Xna.Framework.Color? color=null)  
Draws a texture in the window.
- void [DrawText](#) (string text, SpriteFont font, Vector2 windowPos, Microsoft.Xna.Framework.Color? color=null)  
Draws text on the window.
- Texture2D [LoadFromImageFile](#) (string fileName, bool mirrorY=false)  
Loads a texture directly from an image file.
- void [PrepareDraw](#) (bool firstCallInDraw=true)  
This is automatically called once at the beginning of your [BIWindow3D::FrameDraw](#) method. It calculates the latest [View](#) and [Projection](#) settings according to the current camera specifications ([Zoom](#), [Aspect](#), [Eye](#), [LookAt](#), etc.), and if firstCallInDraw is true it also may sleep in order to obey FramePeriod. It must also be called explicitly after any changes to the camera settings made later in the [BIWindow3D::FrameDraw](#) method. Only in the first call should firstCallInDraw be true, and in any subsequent calls it should be false.
- Texture2D [CloneTexture2D](#) (Texture2D tex)  
Returns a deepcopy of the texture
- object [Clone](#) ()
- new void [Dispose](#) ()  
When finished with the object, you must call [Dispose\(\)](#) from the same thread that created the object. You can call this multiple times, but once is enough.

## Public Attributes

- Microsoft.Xna.Framework.Matrix [View](#)  
This is the view matrix. Normally you would use the higher-level functions [Eye](#), [LookAt](#), [CameraUp](#), [SetCameraToSprite](#), and [DoDefaultGui](#) instead of changing this directly.
- Microsoft.Xna.Framework.Matrix [Projection](#)  
The Projection matrix. Normally you would use the higher-level functions [Zoom](#), [Aspect](#), [NearClip](#), or [FarClip](#) instead of changing this directly.
- Vector3 [CameraUp](#)  
Camera Up vector. Initially set to +Z. [ResetCamera](#) and [SetCameraToSprite](#) updates this.
- double [DefGuiMinLookZ](#) = -1  
Causes [DoDefaultGui](#) to prevent the Z component of [CameraForwardNormalized](#) from falling below this value. For example, set this to zero so that [DoDefaultGui](#) won't allow the camera to look downward
- double [DefGuiMaxLookZ](#) = 1  
Caues [DoDefaultGui](#) to prevent the Z component of [CameraForwardNormalized](#) from rising above this value. For example, set this to zero so that [DoDefaultGui](#) won't allow the camera to look upward

- DepthStencilState [DepthStencilStateEnabled](#)  
*Assign DepthStencilState to this to enable depth buffering*
- DepthStencilState [DepthStencilStateDisabled](#)  
*Assign DepthStencilState to this to disable depth buffering*
- Vector3 [TargetEye](#)  
*The point that [Eye](#) migrates to, according to [CameraSpeed](#). This is normally controlled by [DoDefaultGui](#), but can also be controlled by the [AdjustCameraxxx](#) methods. The easiest way to control the camera exactly (including camera roll), is to use [SetCameraToSprite](#) and then set the sprite's matrix as desired.*
- Vector3 [TargetLookAt](#)  
*The point that [LookAt](#) migrates to, according to [CameraSpeed](#). This is normally controlled by [DoDefaultGui](#), but can also be controlled by the [AdjustCameraxxx](#) methods. The easiest way to control the camera exactly (including camera roll), is to use [SetCameraToSprite](#) and then set the sprite's matrix as desired.*
- double [CameraSpeed](#) = .4  
*The responsiveness of the camera position to changes in [TargetEye](#) and [TargetLookAt](#). A value of 0 means it doesn't respond to changes, 1 means it immediately responds. See [Eye](#) and [LookAt](#) for more information.*
- double [Zoom](#) =45  
*The field of view, in degrees.*
- double [Aspect](#) =2  
*The aspect ratio.*
- double [NearClip](#) = 0  
*The near clipping plane. If 0 then autoclip. If negative then auto-clip down to a limit of -NearClip. (Auto-clipping has a one-frame latency. A mechanism is employed in the camera control methods to somewhat alleviate this, but in certain cases you may still see a one frame dropout in visibility.) See the description for the depth buffer for more information.*
- double [FarClip](#) = 0  
*The far clipping plane. If 0 then autoclip. If negative then auto-clip up to a limit of -FarClip. (Auto-clipping has a one-frame latency. A mechanism is employed in the camera control methods to somewhat alleviate this, but in certain cases you may still see a one frame dropout in visibility.) See the description for the depth buffer for more information.*
- double [ClipRangeExcess](#) = 5  
*Increase far clipping and decrease near clipping by this much. Use this to alleviate certain auto-clipping artifacts. See [NearClip](#) and [FarClip](#).*
- Microsoft.Xna.Framework.Color [ClearColor](#) =new Microsoft.Xna.Framework.Color(0,0,.1f)  
*The background color.*
- double [AutoRotate](#) = 0  
*How fast [DoDefaultGui](#) should auto-rotate the scene.*
- double [FramePeriod](#) = 1/60.0  
*How much time between consecutive frames.*
- List< [Light](#) > [Lights](#) = new List<[Light](#)>()  
*The directional lights. Note: The BasicEffect shader only supports the first three. To handle more lights, you'll need to write your own shader.*
- Vector3 [AmbientLightColor](#) = new Vector3(.1f, .1f, .1f)  
*The ambient light color. If null, no ambient light is enabled. Note: There is no ambient color for a [BISprite](#). Both diffuse and ambient light illuminates the model's Color. See the [BISprite::Color](#) member.*
- Vector3 [FogColor](#) = null  
*If not null, color of fog.*
- float [fogStart](#) = 1  
*How far away fog starts. See [FogColor](#).*
- float [fogEnd](#) = 10  
*How far away fog ends. See [FogColor](#).*
- [BIWindow3D Window](#)  
*The [BIWindow3D](#) associated with this object.*
- SpriteBatch [SpriteBatch](#) =null  
*A SpriteBatch for use by certain text and texture drawing methods.*
- bool [IsDisposed](#) = false  
*Set when the object is Disposed.*

## Properties

- Vector3 [CameraForward](#) [get]  
*The vector between [Eye](#) and [LookAt](#). Writes to [Eye](#) and [LookAt](#) and calls to [SetCameraToSprite](#) cause this to be updated. Also see [CameraForwardNormalized](#) and [CameraForwardMag](#).*
- Vector3 [CameraForwardNormalized](#) [get]  
*Normalized form of [CameraForward](#). Writes to [Eye](#) and [LookAt](#), and calls to [SetCameraToSprite](#) cause this to be updated. Also see [CameraForward](#) and [CameraForwardMag](#).*
- float [CameraForwardMag](#) [get]  
*The magnitude of [CameraForward](#). Writes to [Eye](#) and [LookAt](#), and calls to [SetCameraToSprite](#) cause this to be updated. Also see [CameraForward](#) and [CameraForwardNormalized](#).*
- Vector3 [CameraRight](#) [get]  
*Camera Right vector. Writes to [Eye](#) and [LookAt](#), and calls to [SetCameraToSprite](#) cause this to be updated.*
- Vector3 [Eye](#) [get]  
*The current camera position. See [TargetEye](#).*
- Vector3 [LookAt](#) [get]  
*The current camera LookAt position. See [TargetLookAt](#).*
- double [CurrentAspect](#) [get]  
*Current aspect ratio. Same as [Aspect](#) unless [Aspect](#)==0.*
- double [CurrentNearClip](#) [get]  
*Current value of near clipping plane. See [NearClip](#).*
- double [CurrentFarClip](#) [get]  
*Current value of far clipping plane. See [FarClip](#).*
- double [MinCamDistance](#) [get]  
*Distance to the nearest sprite, less its radius. Note this is set to a very large number by [PrepareDraw](#), and then as [BIWindow3D::FrameDraw](#) is called it is set more reasonably.*
- double [MaxCamDistance](#) [get]  
*Distance to the farthest sprite, plus its radius. Note this is set to a very small number by [PrepareDraw](#), and then as [BIWindow3D::FrameDraw](#) is called it is set more reasonably.*

### 6.2.1 Detailed Description

This holds everything having to do with an output device. [BIWindow3D](#) creates one of these for itself. This derives from MonoGame GraphicsDeviceManager.

### 6.2.2 Constructor & Destructor Documentation

#### 6.2.2.1 BIGraphicsDeviceManager()

```
Blotch.BIGraphicsDeviceManager.BIGraphicsDeviceManager (
    BIWindow3D window )
```

#### Parameters

<i>window</i>	The <a href="#">BIWindow3D</a> object for which this is to be the <a href="#">BIGraphicsDeviceManager</a>
---------------	---

## 6.2.3 Member Function Documentation

### 6.2.3.1 AdjustCameraDolly()

```
void Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.AdjustCameraDolly (
    double dif )
```

Migrates the current camera dolly (distance from [LookAt](#)) according to dif. If dif is zero, then there is no change in dolly.

#### Parameters

<i>dif</i>	How much to dolly camera (plus = toward <a href="#">LookAt</a> , minus = away)
------------	--

### 6.2.3.2 AdjustCameraPan()

```
void Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.AdjustCameraPan (
    double difX,
    double difY = 0 )
```

Adjusts camera pan (changing direction of camera) according to difX and difY. if difX and difY are zero, then pan direction isn't changed.

#### Parameters

<i>difX</i>	How much to pan horizontally
<i>difY</i>	How much to pan vertically

### 6.2.3.3 AdjustCameraRotation()

```
void Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.AdjustCameraRotation (
    double difX,
    double difY = 0 )
```

Adjusts camera rotation about the [LookAt](#) point according to difX and difY. if difX and difY are zero, then rotation isn't changed.

#### Parameters

<i>difX</i>	How much to rotate the camera horizontally
<i>difY</i>	How much to rotate the camera vertically

#### 6.2.3.4 AdjustCameraTruck()

```
void Blotch.BIGraphicsDeviceManager.AdjustCameraTruck (
    double difX,
    double difY = 0 )
```

Adjusts camera truck (movement relative to camera direction) according to difX and difY. if difX and difY are zero, then truck position isn't changed.

##### Parameters

<i>difX</i>	How much to truck the camera horizontally
<i>difY</i>	How much to truck the camera vertically

#### 6.2.3.5 AdjustCameraZoom()

```
void Blotch.BIGraphicsDeviceManager.AdjustCameraZoom (
    double dif )
```

Sets the [Zoom](#). If dif is zero, then there is no change in zoom. Normally one would set zoom with the Zoom field. This is mainly for internal use.

##### Parameters

<i>dif</i>	How much to zoom camera (plus = magnify, minus = reduce)
------------	--

#### 6.2.3.6 CalculateRay()

```
Ray Blotch.BIGraphicsDeviceManager.CalculateRay (
    Vector2 windowPosition )
```

Returns a ray that goes from the near clipping plane to the far clipping plane, at the specified window position.

##### Parameters

<i>windowPosition</i>	The window's pixel coordinates
-----------------------	--------------------------------

##### Returns

The Ray into the window at the specified pixel coordinates

### 6.2.3.7 CloneTexture2D()

```
Texture2D Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.CloneTexture2D (
    Texture2D tex )
```

Returns a deepcopy of the texture

#### Parameters

<i>tex</i>	The texture to deepcopy
------------	-------------------------

#### Returns

A deepcopy of tex

### 6.2.3.8 Dispose()

```
new void Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.Dispose ( )
```

When finished with the object, you must call [Dispose\(\)](#) from the same thread that created the object. You can call this multiple times, but once is enough.

### 6.2.3.9 DoDefaultGui()

```
Ray Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.DoDefaultGui ( )
```

Updates [Eye](#), [LookAt](#), etc. according to mouse and certain key input. Specifically: Wheel=Dolly, CTRL↔L-wheel=Zoom, Left-drag=Truck, Right-drag=Rotate, CTRL-left-drag=Pan, Esc=Reset. Also, SHIFT causes all the previous controls to be fine rather than coarse. If CTRL is pressed and mouse left or right button is clicked, then returns a ray into window at mouse position. To control each camera attribute individually and programatically or override the GUI controls, use [AdjustCameraZoom](#), [AdjustCameraDolly](#), [AdjustCameraRotation](#), [AdjustCamera↔Pan](#), [AdjustCameraTruck](#), [ResetCamera](#), and/or [SetCameraToSprite](#). Or see the more basic fields of [Zoom](#), [Aspect](#), [TargetEye](#), and [TargetLookAt](#).

#### Returns

If a mouse left or right click occurred, returns the Ray into the screen at that position. Otherwise returns null

### 6.2.3.10 DrawText()

```
void Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.DrawText (
    string text,
    SpriteFont font,
    Vector2 windowPos,
    Microsoft.Xna.Framework.Color? color = null )
```

Draws text on the window.

## Parameters

<i>text</i>	The text to draw
<i>font</i>	The font to use (typically created from SpriteFont content with Content.Load<SpriteFont>(...) )
<i>windowPos</i>	The X and Y window location, in pixels
<i>color</i>	Foreground color of the font

## 6.2.3.11 DrawTexture()

```
void Blotch.BIGraphicsDeviceManager.DrawTexture (
    Texture2D texture,
    Rectangle windowRect,
    Microsoft.Xna.Framework.Color? color = null )
```

Draws a texture in the window.

## Parameters

<i>texture</i>	The texture to draw
<i>windowRect</i>	The X and Y window location, in pixels
<i>color</i>	Foreground color of the font

## 6.2.3.12 ExtendClippingTo()

```
void Blotch.BIGraphicsDeviceManager.ExtendClippingTo (
    BLSprite s )
```

Informs the auto-clipping code of an object that should be visible within the clipping limits. This is mainly for internal use. Application code should control clipping with NearClip and FarClip.

## Parameters

<i>s</i>	The sprite that should be included in the auto-clipping code
----------	--

## 6.2.3.13 GetWindowCoordinates()

```
Vector3 Blotch.BIGraphicsDeviceManager.GetWindowCoordinates (
    BLSprite sprite )
```

Returns the window coordinates of the specified sprite.

**Parameters**

<i>sprite</i>	The sprite to get the window coordinates of
---------------	---

**Returns**

The window coordinates of the sprite, in pixels

**6.2.3.14 Initialize()**

```
void Blotch.BIGraphicsDeviceManager.Initialize ( )
```

For internal use only. Apps should not normally call this. This initializes some values AFTER the [BIWindow3D](#) has been created.

**6.2.3.15 LoadFromImageFile()**

```
Texture2D Blotch.BIGraphicsDeviceManager.LoadFromImageFile (
    string fileName,
    bool mirrorY = false )
```

Loads a texture directly from an image file.

**Parameters**

<i>fileName</i>	An image file of any standard type supported by MonoGame (jpg, png, etc.)
<i>mirrorY</i>	If true, then mirror Y

**Returns**

The texture that was loaded

**6.2.3.16 PrepareDraw()**

```
void Blotch.BIGraphicsDeviceManager.PrepareDraw (
    bool firstCallInDraw = true )
```

This is automatically called once at the beginning of your [BIWindow3D::FrameDraw](#) method. It calculates the latest [View](#) and [Projection](#) settings according to the current camera specifications ([Zoom](#), [Aspect](#), [Eye](#), [LookAt](#), etc.), and if `firstCallInDraw` is true it also may sleep in order to obey `FramePeriod`. It must also be called explicitly after any changes to the camera settings made later in the [BIWindow3D::FrameDraw](#) method. Only in the first call should `firstCallInDraw` be true, and in any subsequent calls it should be false.



## Parameters

<i>firstCallInDraw</i>	True indicates this method should also sleep in order to obey FramePeriod.
------------------------	--

## 6.2.3.17 ResetCamera()

```
void Blotch.BIGraphicsDeviceManager.ResetCamera ( )
```

Sets [Eye](#), [LookAt](#), etc. back to default starting position.

## 6.2.3.18 SetCameraRollToZero()

```
void Blotch.BIGraphicsDeviceManager.SetCameraRollToZero ( )
```

Sets the camera 'roll' to be level with the XY plane

## 6.2.3.19 SetCameraToSprite()

```
void Blotch.BIGraphicsDeviceManager.SetCameraToSprite (
    BlSprite sprite )
```

Sets the camera position and orientation to the current position and orientation of a sprite. You could use for cockpit view, for example. Note that the camera will lag sprite movement unless the following is done: For every frame you must first calculate the sprite's position and orientation, call this function, and then draw everything.

## Parameters

<i>sprite</i>	The sprite that the camera should be connected to
---------------	---

## 6.2.3.20 SetSpriteToCamera()

```
void Blotch.BIGraphicsDeviceManager.SetSpriteToCamera (
    BlSprite sprite )
```

Sets a sprite's [BlSprite::Matrix](#) to the current camera position and orientation. You could use this to implement a HUD, for example. Note: This only works correctly if the sprite has no parent (and is thus drawn directly) or it's parents are untransformed. If all you want is to set the sprite's position (but NOT orientation) to the camera, then set the sprite's `Matrix.Translation = graphics.Eye`

## Parameters

<i>sprite</i>	The sprite that should be connected to the camera
---------------	---

## 6.2.3.21 TextToTexture()

```
Texture2D Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.TextToTexture (
    string text,
    SpriteFont font,
    Microsoft.Xna.Framework.Color? color = null,
    Microsoft.Xna.Framework.Color? backColor = null )
```

Returns a Texture2D containing the specified text. It's up to the caller to Dispose the returned texture.

## Parameters

<i>text</i>	The text to write to the texture
<i>font</i>	Font to use
<i>color</i>	If specified, color of the text. (Default is white)
<i>backColor</i>	If specified, background color, like Color.Transparent. If null, then do not clear the background)

## Returns

The texture (as a RenderTarget2D). Caller is responsible for Disposing this!

## 6.2.4 Member Data Documentation

## 6.2.4.1 AmbientLightColor

```
Vector3 Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.AmbientLightColor = new Vector3(.1f, .1f, .1f)
```

The ambient light color. If null, no ambient light is enabled. Note: There is no ambient color for a [BISprite](#). Both diffuse and ambient light illuminates the model's Color. See the [BISprite::Color](#) member.

## 6.2.4.2 Aspect

```
double Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.Aspect =2
```

The aspect ratio.

#### 6.2.4.3 AutoRotate

```
double Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.AutoRotate = 0
```

How fast [DoDefaultGui](#) should auto-rotate the scene.

#### 6.2.4.4 CameraSpeed

```
double Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.CameraSpeed = .4
```

The responsiveness of the camera position to changes in [TargetEye](#) and [TargetLookAt](#). A value of 0 means it doesn't respond to changes, 1 means it immediately responds. See [Eye](#) and [LookAt](#) for more information.

#### 6.2.4.5 CameraUp

```
Vector3 Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.CameraUp
```

Camera Up vector. Initially set to +Z. [ResetCamera](#) and [SetCameraToSprite](#) updates this.

#### 6.2.4.6 ClearColor

```
Microsoft.Xna.Framework.Color Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.ClearColor =new Microsoft.Xna.↵  
Framework.Color(0,0,.1f)
```

The background color.

#### 6.2.4.7 ClipRangeExcess

```
double Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.ClipRangeExcess = 5
```

Increase far clipping and decrease near clipping by this much. Use this to alleviate certain auto-clipping artifacts. See [NearClip](#) and [FarClip](#).

#### 6.2.4.8 DefGuiMaxLookZ

```
double Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.DefGuiMaxLookZ = 1
```

Caues [DoDefaultGui](#) to prevent the Z component of [CameraForwardNormalized](#) from rising above this value. For example, set this to zero so that [DoDefaultGui](#) won't allow the camera to look upward

#### 6.2.4.9 DefGuiMinLookZ

```
double Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.DefGuiMinLookZ = -1
```

Causes [DoDefaultGui](#) to prevent the Z component of [CameraForwardNormalized](#) from falling below this value. For example, set this to zero so that [DoDefaultGui](#) won't allow the camera to look downward

#### 6.2.4.10 DepthStencilStateDisabled

```
DepthStencilState Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.DepthStencilStateDisabled
```

**Initial value:**

```
= new DepthStencilState()
{
    DepthBufferEnable = false,
    DepthBufferWriteEnable = false,
    DepthBufferFunction = CompareFunction.Always
}
```

Assign DepthStencilState to this to disable depth buffering

#### 6.2.4.11 DepthStencilStateEnabled

```
DepthStencilState Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.DepthStencilStateEnabled
```

**Initial value:**

```
= new DepthStencilState()
{
    DepthBufferEnable = true,
    DepthBufferWriteEnable = true,
    DepthBufferFunction = CompareFunction.LessEqual
}
```

Assign DepthStencilState to this to enable depth buffering

#### 6.2.4.12 FarClip

```
double Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.FarClip = 0
```

The far clipping plane. If 0 then autoclip. If negative then auto-clip up to a limit of -FarClip. (Auto-clipping has a one-frame latency. A mechanism is employed in the camera control methods to somewhat alleviate this, but in certain cases you may still see a one frame dropout in visibility.) See the description for the depth buffer for more information.

#### 6.2.4.13 FogColor

```
Vector3 Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.FogColor = null
```

If not null, color of fog.

#### 6.2.4.14 fogEnd

```
float Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.fogEnd = 10
```

How far away fog ends. See [FogColor](#).

#### 6.2.4.15 fogStart

```
float Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.fogStart = 1
```

How far away fog starts. See [FogColor](#).

#### 6.2.4.16 FramePeriod

```
double Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.FramePeriod = 1/60.0
```

How much time between consecutive frames.

#### 6.2.4.17 IsDisposed

```
bool Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.IsDisposed = false
```

Set when the object is Disposed.

#### 6.2.4.18 Lights

```
List<Light> Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.Lights = new List<Light>()
```

The directional lights. Note: The BasicEffect shader only supports the first three. To handle more lights, you'll need to write your own shader.

#### 6.2.4.19 NearClip

```
double Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.NearClip = 0
```

The near clipping plane. If 0 then autoclip. If negative then auto-clip down to a limit of -NearClip. (Auto-clipping has a one-frame latency. A mechanism is employed in the camera control methods to somewhat alleviate this, but in certain cases you may still see a one frame dropout in visibility.) See the description for the depth buffer for more information.

#### 6.2.4.20 Projection

```
Microsoft.Xna.Framework.Matrix Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.Projection
```

The Projection matrix. Normally you would use the higher-level functions [Zoom](#), [Aspect](#), [NearClip](#), or [FarClip](#) instead of changing this directly.

#### 6.2.4.21 SpriteBatch

```
SpriteBatch Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.SpriteBatch =null
```

A [SpriteBatch](#) for use by certain text and texture drawing methods.

#### 6.2.4.22 TargetEye

```
Vector3 Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.TargetEye
```

The point that [Eye](#) migrates to, according to [CameraSpeed](#). This is normally controlled by [DoDefaultGui](#), but can also be controlled by the [AdjustCameraxxx](#) methods. The easiest way to control the camera exactly (including camera roll), is to use [SetCameraToSprite](#) and then set the sprite's matrix as desired.

#### 6.2.4.23 TargetLookAt

```
Vector3 Blotch.BlGraphicsDeviceManager.TargetLookAt
```

The point that [LookAt](#) migrates to, according to [CameraSpeed](#). This is normally controlled by [DoDefaultGui](#), but can also be controlled by the [AdjustCameraxxx](#) methods. The easiest way to control the camera exactly (including camera roll), is to use [SetCameraToSprite](#) and then set the sprite's matrix as desired.

#### 6.2.4.24 View

```
Microsoft.Xna.Framework.Matrix Blotch.BIGraphicsDeviceManager.View
```

This is the view matrix. Normally you would use the higher-level functions [Eye](#), [LookAt](#), [CameraUp](#), [SetCameraToSprite](#), and [DoDefaultGui](#) instead of changing this directly.

#### 6.2.4.25 Window

```
BlWindow3D Blotch.BIGraphicsDeviceManager.Window
```

The [BlWindow3D](#) associated with this object.

#### 6.2.4.26 Zoom

```
double Blotch.BIGraphicsDeviceManager.Zoom =45
```

The field of view, in degrees.

### 6.2.5 Property Documentation

#### 6.2.5.1 CameraForward

```
Vector3 Blotch.BIGraphicsDeviceManager.CameraForward [get]
```

The vector between [Eye](#) and [LookAt](#). Writes to [Eye](#) and [LookAt](#) and calls to [SetCameraToSprite](#) cause this to be updated. Also see [CameraForwardNormalized](#) and [CameraForwardMag](#).

#### 6.2.5.2 CameraForwardMag

```
float Blotch.BIGraphicsDeviceManager.CameraForwardMag [get]
```

The magnitude of [CameraForward](#). Writes to [Eye](#) and [LookAt](#), and calls to [SetCameraToSprite](#) cause this to be updated. Also see [CameraForward](#) and [CameraForwardNormalized](#).

#### 6.2.5.3 CameraForwardNormalized

`Vector3 Blotch.BiGraphicsDeviceManager.CameraForwardNormalized [get]`

Normalized form of [CameraForward](#). Writes to [Eye](#) and [LookAt](#), and calls to [SetCameraToSprite](#) cause this to be updated. Also see [CameraForward](#) and [CameraForwardMag](#).

#### 6.2.5.4 CameraRight

`Vector3 Blotch.BiGraphicsDeviceManager.CameraRight [get]`

Camera Right vector. Writes to [Eye](#) and [LookAt](#), and calls to [SetCameraToSprite](#) cause this to be updated.

#### 6.2.5.5 CurrentAspect

`double Blotch.BiGraphicsDeviceManager.CurrentAspect [get]`

Current aspect ratio. Same as [Aspect](#) unless [Aspect](#)==0.

#### 6.2.5.6 CurrentFarClip

`double Blotch.BiGraphicsDeviceManager.CurrentFarClip [get]`

Current value of far clipping plane. See [FarClip](#).

#### 6.2.5.7 CurrentNearClip

`double Blotch.BiGraphicsDeviceManager.CurrentNearClip [get]`

Current value of near clipping plane. See [NearClip](#).

#### 6.2.5.8 Eye

`Vector3 Blotch.BiGraphicsDeviceManager.Eye [get]`

The current camera position. See [TargetEye](#).



### 6.2.5.9 LookAt

`Vector3 Blotch.BIGraphicsDeviceManager.LookAt [get]`

The current camera LookAt position. See [TargetLookAt](#).

### 6.2.5.10 MaxCamDistance

`double Blotch.BIGraphicsDeviceManager.MaxCamDistance [get]`

Distance to the farthest sprite, plus its radius. Note this is set to a very small number by [PrepareDraw](#), and then as [BIWindow3D::FrameDraw](#) is called it is set more reasonably.

### 6.2.5.11 MinCamDistance

`double Blotch.BIGraphicsDeviceManager.MinCamDistance [get]`

Distance to the nearest sprite, less its radius. Note this is set to a very large number by [PrepareDraw](#), and then as [BIWindow3D::FrameDraw](#) is called it is set more reasonably.

The documentation for this class was generated from the following file:

- `C:/Users/kloum/Desktop/Source/Blotch3D/src/BIGraphicsDeviceManager.cs`

## 6.3 Blotch.BIGuiControl Class Reference

A 2D GUI control. To create a GUI control: instantiate one of these, set its initial Texture, window position, and delegate, and then add it to [BIWindow3D::GuiControls](#). (Any member can be dynamically changed.) The texture will be displayed, and then each frame the mouse is over it the delegate will be called. The delegate typically would examine the current mouse state (`Mouse.GetState()`) and the [PrevMouseState](#) member to detect button changes, etc. and perform an action. The delegate is called in the context of the window's 3D thread after the [BIWindow3D::FrameProc](#) method.

### Public Member Functions

- delegate void [OnMouseChangeDelegate](#) ([BIGuiControl](#) guiCtrl)
- [BIGuiControl](#) ([BIWindow3D](#) window)
- bool [HandleInput](#) ()

*Delegates for a [BIGuiControl](#) are of this type*

*Periodically called by [BIWindow3D](#). You shouldn't need to call this.*

## Public Attributes

- Texture2D [Texture](#) = null  
*The texture to display for this control. Don't forget to dispose it when done.*
- Vector2 [Position](#) = Vector2.Zero  
*The pixel position of this control in the [BIWindow3D](#)*
- [OnMouseChangeDelegate OnMouseOver](#) = null  
*The delegate to call each frame (from the 3D thread) when the mouse is over the control. A typical delegate would make a decision according to [PrevMouseState](#) and the current mouse state ([Mouse.GetState](#)).*
- MouseState [PrevMouseState](#) = new MouseState()  
*The previous mouse state. A delegate typically uses this along with the current mouse state to make a decision.*
- [BIWindow3D Window](#) = null  
*The window this [BISGuiControl](#) is in.*

### 6.3.1 Detailed Description

A 2D GUI control. To create a GUI control: instantiate one of these, set its initial Texture, window position, and delegate, and then add it to [BIWindow3D::GuiControls](#). (Any member can be dynamically changed.) The texture will be displayed, and then each frame the mouse is over it the delegate will be called. The delegate typically would examine the current mouse state ([Mouse.GetState\(\)](#)) and the [PrevMouseState](#) member to detect button changes, etc. and perform an action. The delegate is called in the context of the window's 3D thread after the [BIWindow3D::FrameProc](#) method.

### 6.3.2 Member Function Documentation

#### 6.3.2.1 HandleInput()

```
bool Blotch.BISGuiControl.HandleInput ( )
```

Periodically called by [BIWindow3D](#). You shouldn't need to call this.

#### Returns

True if mouse is over any control, false otherwise.

#### 6.3.2.2 OnMouseChangeDelegate()

```
delegate void Blotch.BISGuiControl.OnMouseChangeDelegate (
    BISGuiControl guiCtrl )
```

Delegates for a [BISGuiControl](#) are of this type

## Parameters

<i>guiCtrl</i>	
----------------	--

### 6.3.3 Member Data Documentation

#### 6.3.3.1 OnMouseOver

```
OnMouseChangeDelegate Blotch.BIGuiControl.OnMouseOver = null
```

The delegate to call each frame (from the 3D thread) when the mouse is over the control. A typical delegate would make a decision according to [PrevMouseState](#) and the current mouse state (`Mouse.GetState`).

#### 6.3.3.2 Position

```
Vector2 Blotch.BIGuiControl.Position = Vector2.Zero
```

The pixel position of this control in the [BIWindow3D](#)

#### 6.3.3.3 PrevMouseState

```
MouseState Blotch.BIGuiControl.PrevMouseState = new MouseState()
```

The previous mouse state. A delegate typically uses this along with the current mouse state to make a decision.

#### 6.3.3.4 Texture

```
Texture2D Blotch.BIGuiControl.Texture = null
```

The texture to display for this control. Don't forget to dispose it when done.

#### 6.3.3.5 Window

```
BIWindow3D Blotch.BIGuiControl.Window = null
```

The window this [BIGuiControl](#) is in.

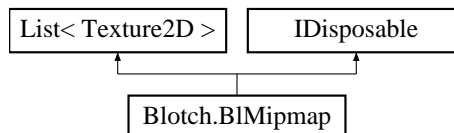
The documentation for this class was generated from the following file:

- C:/Users/kloum/Desktop/Source/Blotch3D/src/BIGuiControl.cs

## 6.4 Blotch.BIMipmap Class Reference

A [BIMipmap](#) holds a list of different resolutions of a texture, where one is applied to a sprite, depending on the `ApparentSize` of that sprite. You would assign it to a [BISprite::Mipmap](#). Note that this is a software mipmap (i.e. it isn't implemented in the 3D hardware). That is, unlike a hardware mipmap where different resolutions of the texture may appear on different parts of the sprite, only one resolution texture is used at time.

Inheritance diagram for Blotch.BIMipmap:



### Public Member Functions

- [BIMipmap](#) ([BlGraphicsDeviceManager](#) graphics, Texture2D tex, int numMaps=999, bool reverseX=false, bool reverseY=false)  
*Creates the mipmaps from the specified texture.*
- void [Dispose](#) ()  
*When finished with the object, you must call [Dispose\(\)](#) from the same thread that created the object. You can call this multiple times, but once is enough.*

### Public Attributes

- bool [IsDisposed](#) = false  
*Set when the object is Disposed.*

### 6.4.1 Detailed Description

A [BIMipmap](#) holds a list of different resolutions of a texture, where one is applied to a sprite, depending on the `ApparentSize` of that sprite. You would assign it to a [BISprite::Mipmap](#). Note that this is a software mipmap (i.e. it isn't implemented in the 3D hardware). That is, unlike a hardware mipmap where different resolutions of the texture may appear on different parts of the sprite, only one resolution texture is used at time.

### 6.4.2 Constructor & Destructor Documentation

#### 6.4.2.1 BIMipmap()

```

Blotch.BIMipmap.BIMipmap (
    BlGraphicsDeviceManager graphics,
    Texture2D tex,
    int numMaps = 999,
    bool reverseX = false,
    bool reverseY = false )
  
```

Creates the mipmaps from the specified texture.

## Parameters

<i>graphics</i>	Graphics device (typically the one owned by your <a href="#">BIWindow3D</a> )
<i>tex</i>	Texture from which to create mipmaps, typically gotten from <code>BIGraphics::LoadFromImageFile</code> .
<i>numMaps</i>	Maximum number of mipmaps to create (none are created with lower resolution than 16x16)
<i>reverseX</i>	Whether to reverse pixels horizontally
<i>reverseY</i>	Whether to reverse pixels vertically

## 6.4.3 Member Function Documentation

## 6.4.3.1 Dispose()

```
void Blotch.BIMipmap.Dispose ( )
```

When finished with the object, you must call [Dispose\(\)](#) from the same thread that created the object. You can call this multiple times, but once is enough.

## 6.4.4 Member Data Documentation

## 6.4.4.1 IsDisposed

```
bool Blotch.BIMipmap.IsDisposed = false
```

Set when the object is Disposed.

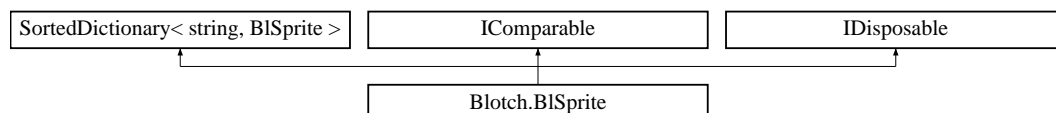
The documentation for this class was generated from the following file:

- C:/Users/kloum/Desktop/Source/Blotch3D/src/BIMipmap.cs

## 6.5 Blotch.BISprite Class Reference

A [BISprite](#) is a single 3D object. Each sprite can also hold any number of subsprites, so you can make a sprite tree (a scene graph). Subsprites are drawn in the order of their sorted names. Child sprites 'follow' the orientation and position of the parent sprite. That is, they exist in the coordinate system of the parent sprite. The location and orientation of a sprite in its parent's coordinate system is defined by the sprite's [Matrix](#) member. Subsprites, [LODs](#), and [Mipmap](#) are NOT disposed when the sprite is disposed, so you can assign the same one to multiple sprites.

Inheritance diagram for Blotch.BISprite:



## Public Types

- enum [PreDrawCmd](#) { [PreDrawCmd.Continue](#), [PreDrawCmd.Abort](#), [PreDrawCmd.UseCurrentAbsoluteMatrix](#) }  
Return code from [PreDraw](#) callback. This tells [Draw](#) what to do next.
- enum [PreSubspritesCmd](#) { [PreSubspritesCmd.Continue](#), [PreSubspritesCmd.Abort](#), [PreSubspritesCmd.DontDrawSubsprites](#) }  
Return code from [PreSubsprites](#) callback. This tells [Draw](#) what to do next.
- enum [SetEffectCmd](#) { [SetEffectCmd.Continue](#), [SetEffectCmd.Abort](#), [SetEffectCmd.Skip](#) }  
Return code from [PreSubsprites](#) callback. This tells [Draw](#) what to do next.
- enum [PreLocalCmd](#) { [PreLocalCmd.Continue](#), [PreLocalCmd.Abort](#) }  
Return code from [PreSubsprites](#) callback. This tells [Draw](#) what to do next.

## Public Member Functions

- delegate void [FrameProcType](#) ([BISprite](#) sprite)  
See [#FrameProc](#)
- void [ExecuteFrameProc](#) ()  
Execute the [FrameProc](#), if it was specified in the [BISprite](#) constructor. (Normally you wouldn't need to call this because its automatically called by the [BIWindow](#).)
- delegate [PreDrawCmd](#) [PreDrawType](#) ([BISprite](#) sprite)  
See [PreDraw](#)
- delegate [PreSubspritesCmd](#) [PreSubspritesType](#) ([BISprite](#) sprite)  
See [PreSubsprites](#)
- delegate Effect [SetMeshEffectType](#) ([BISprite](#) sprite, Effect effect)  
See [SetEffect](#)
- delegate [PreLocalCmd](#) [PreLocalType](#) ([BISprite](#) sprite)  
See [PreLocal](#)
- delegate void [DrawCleanupType](#) ([BISprite](#) sprite)  
See [DrawCleanup](#)
- [BISprite](#) ([BGraphicsDeviceManager](#) graphicsIn, string name, [FrameProcType](#) frameProc=null)  
Constructs a [sprite](#)
- void [Add](#) ([BISprite](#) s)  
Add a [sprite](#). (A [BISprite](#) inherits from a Dictionary of [BISprites](#). This wrapper method to the dictionary's [Add](#) method simply adds the [sprite](#) where the key is the [sprite's Name](#).)
- Vector2 [GetViewCoords](#) ()  
Returns the current 2D view coordinates of the [sprite](#) (for passing to [DrawText](#), for example), or null if it's behind the camera.
- void [SetAllMaterialBlack](#) ()  
Sets all material colors to black.
- double [DoesRayIntersect](#) (Ray ray)  
Returns the distance along the ray to the first point the ray enters the bounding sphere ([BoundSphere](#)), or null if it doesn't enter the sphere.
- List< [BISprite](#) > [GetRayIntersections](#) (Ray ray, ulong flags=0xFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF, List< [BISprite](#) > sprites=null)  
Returns a list of [sprites](#) that the ray hit (i.e. those that were within their radius of the ray)
- void [Draw](#) ([Matrix?](#) worldMatrixIn=null, ulong flagsIn=0xFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF)  
Draws the [sprite](#) and the [sprites](#).
- Texture2D [GetCurrentTexture](#) ()  
If [Mipmap](#) is a [BIMipmap](#), this returns the [mipmap](#) texture that should currently be applied to the [sprite](#). If [Mipmap](#) is a [Texture2D](#), then that texture is returned.
- void [SetupBasicEffect](#) ([BasicEffect](#) effect)

Sets up in the specified *BasicEffect* all matrices and lighting parameters for this sprite. *BISprite::DrawInternal* calls this for the *BasicEffects* embedded in the LOD models. For *BlBasicEffect* objects, see the overload of this method.

- void **SetupBasicEffect** (*BlBasicEffect* effect)

Sets up in the specified *BlBasicEffect* with all matrices and lighting parameters for this sprite. App code might call this from a *SetEffect* delegate if, for example, it is using one of the *BlBasicEffectxxx* effects, like the *BlBasicEffectWithAlphaTest*.

- override string **ToString** ()
- int **CompareTo** (object obj)

This makes a *Sort* operation sort sprites far to near. That is, the nearer sprites are later in the list. For sorting near to far, use something like `myList.Sort(new Comparison<EsSprite>((b, a) => a.CompareTo(b)))`;

- void **Dispose** ()

When finished with the object, you should call *Dispose()* from the same thread that created the object. You can call this multiple times, but once is enough. If it isn't called before the object becomes inaccessible, then the destructor will call it and, if *BlDebug.EnableDisposeErrors* is true (it is true by default for *Debug* builds), then it will get an exception saying that it wasn't called by the same thread that created it. This is because the platform's underlying 3D library (*OpenGL*, etc.) often requires 3D resources to be managed only by one thread.

## Static Public Member Functions

- static Vector3 **NearestPointOnLine** (Vector3 point1, Vector3 point2, Vector3 nearPoint)

Returns the point on the line between point1 and point2 that is nearest to nearPoint

## Public Attributes

- ulong **Flags** = 0xFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF

The *Flags* field can be used by callbacks of *Draw* (*PreDraw*, *PreSprites*, *PreLocal*, and *SetEffect*) to indicate various user attributes of the sprite. Also, *GetRayIntersections* won't hit if the bitwise AND of this value and the flags argument passed to it is zero.

- double **Alpha** = 1

Overall alpha of the current texture. (Not to be confused with pixel alpha)

- *BISprite* **Parent** = null

When you use the *Add()* method of a parent sprite to add a child sprite, the child sprite's *Parent* field is set to the *Parent*. If you add a child sprite in any other way, and you want the child's *Parent* field to reflect the parent, you'll have to assign it, yourself. This field is solely for reading by application code. It is not read by *Blotch3D* code. You might need this, for example, to implement particles via the *FrameProc* delegate. See particles example.

- List< object > **LODs** = new List<object>()

The objects (levels of detail) to draw for this sprite. Only one element is drawn depending on the *ApparentSize*. Each element can be a *Model*, a *VertexBuffer*, or null (indicating nothing should be drawn for that LOD). Elements with lower indices are higher LODs. So index 0 has the highest detail, index 1 is second highest, etc. LOD decreases (the index increases) for every halving of the object's apparent size. You can adjust how close the LODs must be to the camera with *LodScale*. When the calculated LOD index is higher than the last element, then the last element is used. So the simplest way to use this is to add a single object to the list. You can add multiple references of the same object so multiple consecutive LODs draw the same object. You can set an element to null so it doesn't draw anything, which is typically the last element. A model can be assigned to multiple sprites. These are NOT disposed when the sprite is disposed.

- double **LodScale** = 9

Defines the LOD scaling. The higher this value, the closer you must be to see a given LOD. A value of 9 (default) indicates that the highest LOD (*LODs[0]*) occurs when an object with a diameter of 1 roughly fills the window. Set to a large negative value, like -1000, to disable LODs (i.e. always use the highest resolution LOD).

- object **Mipmap** = null

A [BIMipmap](#) or a single [Texture2D](#) object. The model must include texture coordinates for this to be visible. It must also include normals if lighting other than 'emissive' is desired. If it's a [BIMipmap](#), it will work the same as LODs (see [LODs](#) for more information). Specifically, the mipmap texture applied depends on the apparent size of the model. The next higher mipmap is used for every doubling of model size, where element zero is the highest resolution, used when the apparent size is largest. If a mipmap is not available for the apparent size, the next higher available one is used. Most graphics subsystems do support mipmaps, but these are software mipmaps, so only one image is used over a model for a given model apparent size rather than nearer portions of the model showing higher-level mipmaps. This is NOT disposed when the sprite is disposed, so a given [BIMipmap](#) or [Texture2D](#) may be assigned to multiple sprites.

- double [MipmapScale](#) = 5

Defines the mipmap (Textures) scaling. The higher this value, the closer you must be to see a given mipmap. Set to a large negative value, like -1000, to disable mipmaps (i.e. always use the highest resolution mipmap).

- BoundingBoxSphere [BoundSphere](#) = null

The bounding sphere for this sprite. This is automatically updated when a model is drawn, but not if vertices are drawn. In that case you should set/update it explicitly if any of the internal functions may need it to be roughly correct, like if auto-clipping is enabled or a mouse selection or ray may hit the sprite and the hit be properly detected.

- bool [SphericalBillboard](#) = false

Spherically billboard the model. Specifically, keep the model's 'forward' direction pointing at the camera and keep its 'Up' direction pointing in the same direction as the camera's 'Up' direction. Also see [CylindricalBillboardX](#), [CylindricalBillboardY](#), [CylindricalBillboardZ](#), and [ConstSize](#).

- Vector3 [CylindricalBillboardX](#) = Vector3.Zero

If non-zero, this is the rotation vector and magnitude of cylindrical billboarding where the angle calculation assumes this vector is the X axis, even though it may not be. The more this varies from that axis, the more eccentric the billboarding behavior. The amount of billboarding is equal to:  $2 * \text{mag}^2 - 1 / \text{mag}^2$ . So if this vector's magnitude is unity (1), then full cylindrical billboarding occurs. A vector magnitude of 0.605 produces double reverse cylindrical billboarding. Also see [SphericalBillboard](#), [CylindricalBillboardY](#), [CylindricalBillboardZ](#), and [ConstSize](#).

- Vector3 [CylindricalBillboardY](#) = Vector3.Zero

If non-zero, this is the rotation vector and magnitude of cylindrical billboarding where the angle calculation assumes this vector is the Y axis, even though it may not be. The more this varies from that axis, the more eccentric the billboarding behavior. The amount of billboarding is equal to:  $2 * \text{mag}^2 - 1 / \text{mag}^2$ . So if this vector's magnitude is unity (1), then full cylindrical billboarding occurs. A vector magnitude of 0.605 produces double reverse cylindrical billboarding. Also see [SphericalBillboard](#), [CylindricalBillboardX](#), [CylindricalBillboardZ](#), and [ConstSize](#).

- Vector3 [CylindricalBillboardZ](#) = Vector3.Zero

If non-zero, this is the rotation vector and magnitude of cylindrical billboarding where the angle calculation assumes this vector is the Z axis, even though it may not be. The more this varies from that axis, the more eccentric the billboarding behavior. The amount of billboarding is equal to:  $2 * \text{mag}^2 - 1 / \text{mag}^2$ . So if this vector's magnitude is unity (1), then full cylindrical billboarding occurs. A vector magnitude of 0.605 produces double reverse cylindrical billboarding. Also see [SphericalBillboard](#), [CylindricalBillboardX](#), [CylindricalBillboardY](#), and [ConstSize](#).

- bool [ConstSize](#) = false

If true, maintain a constant apparent size for the sprite regardless of camera distance or zoom. This is typically used along with one of the Billboarding effects (see [SphericalBillboard](#), [CylindricalBillboardX](#), etc.). Note that if [ConstSize](#) is true, [ApparentSize](#), [LodScale](#), and [MipmapScale](#) still act as if it is false, and therefore in that case you may want to disable them (set them to large negative values). If both [ConstSize](#) and any Billboarding is enabled and you have asymmetric scaling (different scaling for each dimension), then you'll need to separate those operations into different levels of the sprite tree to obtain the desired behavior. You'll also probably want to disable the depth stencil buffer and control which sprite is drawn first so that certain sprites are 'always on top'. See the examples.

- Matrix [AbsoluteMatrix](#) = Matrix.Identity

The [Draw](#) method takes an incoming 'world' matrix parameter which is the coordinate system of its parent. [AbsoluteMatrix](#) is that incoming world matrix parameter times the [Matrix](#) member and altered according to Billboarding and [ConstSize](#). This is not read-only because a callback (see [PreDraw](#), [PreSubsprites](#), [PreLocal](#), and [SetEffect](#)) may need to change it from within the [Draw](#) method. This is the matrix that is also passed to subsprites as their 'world' matrix.

- Matrix [Matrix](#) = Matrix.Identity

The matrix for this sprite. This defines the sprite's orientation and position relative to the parent coordinate system. For more detailed information, see [AbsoluteMatrix](#).

- [BIGraphicsDeviceManager](#) [Graphics](#) = null

Current incoming graphics parameter to the [Draw](#) method. Typically this would be of interest to a callback function (see [PreDraw](#), [PreSubsprites](#), [PreLocal](#), and [SetEffect](#)).

- Matrix [LastWorldMatrix](#) = null



Current incoming world matrix parameter to the [Draw](#) method. Typically this would be of interest to a callback function (see [PreDraw](#), [PreSubsprites](#), [PreLocal](#), and [SetEffect](#)).

- bool [IncludeInAutoClipping](#) = true  
Whether to participate in autoclipping calculations, when they are enabled.
- ulong [FlagsParameter](#) = 0  
Current incoming flags parameter to the [Draw](#) method. Typically this would be of interest to a callback function (see [PreDraw](#), [PreSubsprites](#), [PreLocal](#), and [SetEffect](#)).
- Vector3 [Color](#) = new Vector3(.5f, 1, .5f)  
The color of the material. This is lit by both diffuse and ambient light. If null, MonoGame's default color is kept.
- Vector3 [EmissiveColor](#) = new Vector3(.1f, .1f, .1f)  
The emissive color. If null, MonoGame's default is kept.
- Vector3 [SpecularColor](#) = null  
The specular color. If null, MonoGame's default is kept.
- float [SpecularPower](#) = 4  
If a specular color is specified, this is the specular power.
- [PreDrawType](#) [PreDraw](#) = null  
If not null, [Draw](#) method calls this at the beginning before doing anything else. From this function one might examine and/or alter any public writable [BISprite](#) field, and/or control the further execution of the [Draw](#) method.
- [PreSubspritesType](#) [PreSubsprites](#) = null  
If not null, [Draw](#) method calls this after the matrix calculations for [AbsoluteMatrix](#) (including billboards, [CamDistance](#), [ConstSize](#), etc.) but before drawing the subsprites or local model. From this function one might examine and/or alter any public writable [BISprite](#) field.
- [SetMeshEffectType](#) [SetEffect](#) = null  
If this not null, then the [Draw](#) method executes this delegate for each model mesh effect instead using the default [BasicEffects](#). See the [SpriteAlphaTexture](#) for an example. If you use this but the effect is still of type [BIBasicEffect](#), then you might want to call [SetupBasicEffect](#) from within this delegate to set all the effect's parameters, rather than doing it yourself. The return value is the new or altered effect. If this is called when the thing to draw is a [VertexPositionNormalTexture](#), then the effect parameter passed in is a null.
- [PreLocalType](#) [PreLocal](#) = null  
If not null, [Draw](#) method calls this after drawing subsprites (if appropriate) but before drawing the local model. From this function one might examine and/or alter any public writable [BISprite](#) field, and/or abort the [Draw](#) method.
- [DrawCleanupType](#) [DrawCleanup](#) = null  
If not null, [Draw](#) method calls this at the end.
- string [Name](#)  
The name of the [BISprite](#)
- bool [IsDisposed](#) = false  
Set when the object is Disposed.

## Properties

- double [ApparentSize](#) [get]  
This is proportional to the apparent 2D size of the sprite. (Calculated from the last [Draw](#) operation that occurred, but before any effect of [ConstSize](#))
- double [LodTarget](#) [get]  
This read-only value is the log of the reciprocal of [ApparentSize](#). It is used in the calculation of the LOD and the mipmap level. See [LODs](#) and [Mipmap](#) for more information.
- double [CamDistance](#) [get]  
Distance to the camera.
- double [PrevCamDistance](#) [get]  
Internal use only. Used for predicting new depth clipping values

### 6.5.1 Detailed Description

A [BlSprite](#) is a single 3D object. Each sprite can also hold any number of subsprites, so you can make a sprite tree (a scene graph). Subsprites are drawn in the order of their sorted names. Child sprites 'follow' the orientation and position of the parent sprite. That is, they exist in the coordinate system of the parent sprite. The location and orientation of a sprite in its parent's coordinate system is defined by the sprite's [Matrix](#) member. Subsprites, [LODs](#), and [Mipmap](#) are NOT disposed when the sprite is disposed, so you can assign the same one to multiple sprites.

### 6.5.2 Member Enumeration Documentation

#### 6.5.2.1 PreDrawCmd

```
enum Blotch.BlSprite.PreDrawCmd [strong]
```

Return code from [PreDraw](#) callback. This tells [Draw](#) what to do next.

##### Enumerator

Continue	Continue Draw method execution
Abort	Draw should immediately return
UseCurrentAbsoluteMatrix	Continue Draw method execution, but don't bother re-calculating AbsoluteMatrix. One would typically return this if, for example, its known that AbsoluteMatrix will not change from its current value because the Draw parameters will be the same as they were the last time Draw was called. This happens, for example, when multiple calls are being made in the same draw iteration for graphic operations that require multiple passes.

#### 6.5.2.2 PreLocalCmd

```
enum Blotch.BlSprite.PreLocalCmd [strong]
```

Return code from [PreSubsprites](#) callback. This tells [Draw](#) what to do next.

##### Enumerator

Continue	Continue Draw method execution
Abort	Draw should immediately return

#### 6.5.2.3 PreSubspritesCmd

```
enum Blotch.BlSprite.PreSubspritesCmd [strong]
```

Return code from [PreSubsprites](#) callback. This tells [Draw](#) what to do next.

## Enumerator

Continue	Continue Draw method execution
Abort	Draw should immediately return
DontDrawSubsprites	Skip drawing subsprites

## 6.5.2.4 SetEffectCmd

```
enum Blotch.BlSprite.SetEffectCmd [strong]
```

Return code from [PreSubsprites](#) callback. This tells [Draw](#) what to do next.

## Enumerator

Continue	Continue Draw method execution for the mesh
Abort	Draw should immediately return
Skip	Draw should skip the current mesh

## 6.5.3 Constructor &amp; Destructor Documentation

## 6.5.3.1 BlSprite()

```
Blotch.BlSprite.BlSprite (
    BlGraphicsDeviceManager graphicsIn,
    string name,
    FrameProcType frameProc = null )
```

Constructs a sprite

## Parameters

<i>graphicsIn</i>	The <a href="#">BlGraphicsDeviceManager</a> that operates on this sprite
<i>name</i>	The name of the sprite (must be unique among other sprites in the same subsprite list)
<i>frameProc</i>	The delegate to run every frame. (Note that this is NOT called from within the Draw method. Rather, it is called separately only once every frame. Therefore you can, for example, delete and add other subsprites of this sprite's Parent. See <a href="#">Parent</a> for more information.)

## 6.5.4 Member Function Documentation

#### 6.5.4.1 Add()

```
void Blotch.BISprite.Add (
    BISprite s )
```

Add a subsprite. (A [BISprite](#) inherits from a Dictionary of BISprites. This wrapper method to the dictionary's Add method simply adds the sprite where the key is the sprite's [Name](#).)

##### Parameters

<i>s</i>	
----------	--

#### 6.5.4.2 CompareTo()

```
int Blotch.BISprite.CompareTo (
    object obj )
```

This makes a Sort operation sort sprites far to near. That is, the nearer sprites are later in the list. For sorting near to far, use something like `myList.Sort(new Comparison<EsSprite>((b, a) => a.CompareTo(b)))`;

##### Parameters

<i>obj</i>	
------------	--

##### Returns

#### 6.5.4.3 Dispose()

```
void Blotch.BISprite.Dispose ( )
```

When finished with the object, you should call [Dispose\(\)](#) from the same thread that created the object. You can call this multiple times, but once is enough. If it isn't called before the object becomes inaccessible, then the destructor will call it and, if `BlDebug.EnableDisposeErrors` is true (it is true by default for Debug builds), then it will get an exception saying that it wasn't called by the same thread that created it. This is because the platform's underlying 3D library (OpenGL, etc.) often requires 3D resources to be managed only by one thread.

#### 6.5.4.4 DoesRayIntersect()

```
double Blotch.BISprite.DoesRayIntersect (
    Ray ray )
```

Returns the distance along the ray to the first point the ray enters the bounding sphere (BoundSphere), or null if it doesn't enter the sphere.

**Parameters**

<i>ray</i>	
------------	--

**Returns**

How far along the ray till the first intersection, or null oif it didn't intersect

**6.5.4.5 Draw()**

```
void Blotch.BISprite.Draw (
    Matrix? worldMatrixIn = null,
    ulong flagsIn = 0xFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF )
```

Draws the sprite and the subsprites.

**Parameters**

<i>world↔ MatrixIn</i>	Defines the position and orientation of the sprite
<i>flagsIn</i>	Copied to LastFlags for use by any callback of Draw (PreDraw, PreSubspriteDraw, PreLocalDraw, and SetEffect) that wants it

**6.5.4.6 DrawCleanupType()**

```
delegate void Blotch.BISprite.DrawCleanupType (
    BISprite sprite )
```

See [DrawCleanup](#)

**Parameters**

<i>sprite</i>	
---------------	--

**6.5.4.7 ExecuteFrameProc()**

```
void Blotch.BISprite.ExecuteFrameProc ( )
```

Execute the FrameProc, if it was specified in the [BISprite](#) constructor. (Normally you wouldn't need to call this because its automatically called by the BIWindow.)

#### 6.5.4.8 FrameProcType()

```
delegate void Blotch.BlSprite.FrameProcType (
    BlSprite sprite )
```

See #FrameProc

##### Parameters

<i>sprite</i>	
---------------	--

#### 6.5.4.9 GetCurrentTexture()

```
Texture2D Blotch.BlSprite.GetCurrentTexture ( )
```

If Mipmap is a [BlMipmap](#), this returns the mipmap texture that should currently be applied to the sprite. If Mipmap is a Texture2D, then that texture is returned.

##### Returns

#### 6.5.4.10 GetRayIntersections()

```
List<BlSprite> Blotch.BlSprite.GetRayIntersections (
    Ray ray,
    ulong flags = 0xFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF,
    List< BlSprite > sprites = null )
```

Returns a list of subsprites that the ray hit (i.e. those that were within their radius of the ray)

##### Parameters

<i>ray</i>	The ray we are searching
<i>flags</i>	Check for a hit only if flags & <a href="#">BlSprite::Flags</a> is non-zero
<i>sprites</i>	An existing sprite list to load. If null, then this allocates a new sprite list.

##### Returns

A list of subsprites that the ray hit

#### 6.5.4.11 GetViewCoords()

```
Vector2 Blotch.BlSprite.GetViewCoords ( )
```

Returns the current 2D view coordinates of the sprite (for passing to DrawText, for example), or null if it's behind the camera.

##### Returns

The view coords of the sprite

#### 6.5.4.12 NearestPointOnLine()

```
static Vector3 Blotch.BlSprite.NearestPointOnLine (
    Vector3 point1,
    Vector3 point2,
    Vector3 nearPoint ) [static]
```

Returns the point on the line between point1 and point2 that is nearest to nearPoint

##### Parameters

<i>point1</i>	
<i>point2</i>	
<i>nearPoint</i>	

##### Returns

Point on the line nearest to nearPoint

#### 6.5.4.13 PreDrawType()

```
delegate PreDrawCmd Blotch.BlSprite.PreDrawType (
    BlSprite sprite )
```

See [PreDraw](#)

##### Parameters

<i>sprite</i>	
---------------	--

##### Returns



#### 6.5.4.14 PreLocalType()

```
delegate PreLocalCmd Blotch.BlSprite.PreLocalType (
    BlSprite sprite )
```

See [PreLocal](#)

##### Parameters

<i>sprite</i>	
---------------	--

##### Returns

#### 6.5.4.15 PreSubspritesType()

```
delegate PreSubspritesCmd Blotch.BlSprite.PreSubspritesType (
    BlSprite sprite )
```

See [PreSubsprites](#)

##### Parameters

<i>sprite</i>	
---------------	--

##### Returns

#### 6.5.4.16 SetAllMaterialBlack()

```
void Blotch.BlSprite.SetAllMaterialBlack ( )
```

Sets all material colors to black.

#### 6.5.4.17 SetMeshEffectType()

```
delegate Effect Blotch.BlSprite.SetMeshEffectType (
    BlSprite sprite,
    Effect effect )
```

See [SetEffect](#)

## Parameters

<i>sprite</i>	
<i>effect</i>	

## Returns

## 6.5.4.18 SetupBasicEffect() [1/2]

```
void Blotch.BlSprite.SetupBasicEffect (
    BasicEffect effect )
```

Sets up in the specified BasicEffect all matrices and lighting parameters for this sprite. BlSprite::DrawInternal calls this for the BasicEffects embedded in the LOD models. For [BlBasicEffect](#) objects, see the overload of this method.

## 6.5.4.19 SetupBasicEffect() [2/2]

```
void Blotch.BlSprite.SetupBasicEffect (
    BlBasicEffect effect )
```

Sets up in the specified [BlBasicEffect](#) with all matrices and lighting parameters for this sprite. App code might call this from a SetEffect delegate if, for example, it is using one of the BlBasicEffectxxx effects, like the [BlBasicEffect↵](#) WithAlphaTest.

## 6.5.5 Member Data Documentation

## 6.5.5.1 AbsoluteMatrix

```
Matrix Blotch.BlSprite.AbsoluteMatrix = Matrix.Identity
```

The [Draw](#) method takes an incoming 'world' matrix parameter which is the coordinate system of its parent. [AbsoluteMatrix](#) is that incoming world matrix parameter times the [Matrix](#) member and altered according to Billboarding and [ConstSize](#). This is not read-only because a callback (see [PreDraw](#), [PreSubsprites](#), [PreLocal](#), and [SetEffect](#)) may need to change it from within the [Draw](#) method. This is the matrix that is also passed to subsprites as their 'world' matrix.

#### 6.5.5.2 Alpha

```
double Blotch.BlSprite.Alpha = 1
```

Overall alpha of the current texture. (Not to be confused with pixel alpha)

#### 6.5.5.3 BoundSphere

```
BoundingBox Blotch.BlSprite.BoundSphere = null
```

The bounding sphere for this sprite. This is automatically updated when a model is drawn, but not if vertices are drawn. In that case you should set/update it explicitly if any of the internal functions may need it to be roughly correct, like if auto-clipping is enabled or a mouse selection or ray may hit the sprite and the hit be properly detected.

#### 6.5.5.4 Color

```
Vector3 Blotch.BlSprite.Color = new Vector3(.5f, 1, .5f)
```

The color of the material. This is lit by both diffuse and ambient light. If null, MonoGame's default color is kept.

#### 6.5.5.5 ConstSize

```
bool Blotch.BlSprite.ConstSize = false
```

If true, maintain a constant apparent size for the sprite regardless of camera distance or zoom. This is typically used along with one of the Billboarding effects (see [SphericalBillboard](#), [CylindricalBillboardX](#), etc.). Note that if ConstSize is true, ApparentSize, LodScale, and MipmapScale still act as if it is false, and therefore in that case you may want to disable them (set them to large negative values). If both [ConstSize](#) and any Billboarding is enabled and you have asymmetric scaling (different scaling for each dimension), then you'll need to separate those operations into different levels of the sprite tree to obtain the desired behavior. You'll also probably want to disable the depth stencil buffer and control which sprite is drawn first so that certain sprites are 'always on top'. See the examples.

#### 6.5.5.6 CylindricalBillboardX

```
Vector3 Blotch.BlSprite.CylindricalBillboardX = Vector3.Zero
```

If non-zero, this is the rotation vector and magnitude of cylindrical billboarding where the angle calculation assumes this vector is the X axis, even though it may not be. The more this varies from that axis, the more eccentric the billboarding behavior. The amount of billboarding is equal to:  $2 * \text{mag}^2 - 1 / \text{mag}^2$ . So if this vector's magnitude is unity (1), then full cylindrical billboarding occurs. A vector magnitude of 0.605 produces double reverse cylindrical billboarding. Also see [SphericalBillboard](#), [CylindricalBillboardY](#), [CylindricalBillboardZ](#), and [ConstSize](#).

#### 6.5.5.7 CylindricalBillboardY

```
Vector3 Blotch.BlSprite.CylindricalBillboardY = Vector3.Zero
```

If non-zero, this is the rotation vector and magnitude of cylindrical billboarding where the angle calculation assumes this vector is the Y axis, even though it may not be. The more this varies from that axis, the more eccentric the billboarding behavior. The amount of billboarding is equal to:  $2 * \text{mag}^2 - 1 / \text{mag}^2$ . So if this vector's magnitude is unity (1), then full cylindrical billboarding occurs. A vector magnitude of 0.605 produces double reverse cylindrical billboarding. Also see [SphericalBillboard](#), [CylindricalBillboardX](#), [CylindricalBillboardZ](#), and [ConstSize](#).

#### 6.5.5.8 CylindricalBillboardZ

```
Vector3 Blotch.BlSprite.CylindricalBillboardZ = Vector3.Zero
```

If non-zero, this is the rotation vector and magnitude of cylindrical billboarding where the angle calculation assumes this vector is the Z axis, even though it may not be. The more this varies from that axis, the more eccentric the billboarding behavior. The amount of billboarding is equal to:  $2 * \text{mag}^2 - 1 / \text{mag}^2$ . So if this vector's magnitude is unity (1), then full cylindrical billboarding occurs. A vector magnitude of 0.605 produces double reverse cylindrical billboarding. Also see [SphericalBillboard](#), [CylindricalBillboardX](#), [CylindricalBillboardY](#), and [ConstSize](#).

#### 6.5.5.9 DrawCleanup

```
DrawCleanupType Blotch.BlSprite.DrawCleanup = null
```

If not null, [Draw](#) method calls this at the end.

#### 6.5.5.10 EmissiveColor

```
Vector3 Blotch.BlSprite.EmissiveColor = new Vector3(.1f, .1f, .1f)
```

The emissive color. If null, MonoGame's default is kept.

#### 6.5.5.11 Flags

```
ulong Blotch.BlSprite.Flags = 0xFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF
```

The Flags field can be used by callbacks of [Draw](#) ([PreDraw](#), [PreSubsprites](#), [PreLocal](#), and [SetEffect](#)) to indicate various user attributes of the sprite. Also, [GetRayIntersections](#) won't hit if the bitwise AND of this value and the flags argument passed to it is zero.

#### 6.5.5.12 FlagsParameter

```
ulong Blotch.BlSprite.FlagsParameter = 0
```

Current incoming flags parameter to the Draw method. Typically this would be of interest to a callback function (see [PreDraw](#), [PreSubsprites](#), [PreLocal](#), and [SetEffect](#)).

#### 6.5.5.13 Graphics

```
BlGraphicsDeviceManager Blotch.BlSprite.Graphics = null
```

Current incoming graphics parameter to the [Draw](#) method. Typically this would be of interest to a callback function (see [PreDraw](#), [PreSubsprites](#), [PreLocal](#), and [SetEffect](#)).

#### 6.5.5.14 IncludeInAutoClipping

```
bool Blotch.BlSprite.IncludeInAutoClipping = true
```

Whether to participate in autoclipping calculations, when they are enabled.

#### 6.5.5.15 IsDisposed

```
bool Blotch.BlSprite.IsDisposed = false
```

Set when the object is Disposed.

#### 6.5.5.16 LastWorldMatrix

```
Matrix Blotch.BlSprite.LastWorldMatrix = null
```

Current incoming world matrix parameter to the [Draw](#) method. Typically this would be of interest to a callback function (see [PreDraw](#), [PreSubsprites](#), [PreLocal](#), and [SetEffect](#)).

#### 6.5.5.17 LODs

```
List<object> Blotch.BlSprite.LODs = new List<object>()
```

The objects (levels of detail) to draw for this sprite. Only one element is drawn depending on the ApparentSize. Each element can be a Model, a VertexBuffer, or null (indicating nothing should be drawn for that LOD). Elements with lower indices are higher LODs. So index 0 has the highest detail, index 1 is second highest, etc. LOD decreases (the index increases) for every halving of the object's apparent size. You can adjust how close the LODs must be to the camera with [LodScale](#). When the calculated LOD index is higher than the last element, then the last element is used. So the simplest way to use this is to add a single object to the list. You can add multiple references of the same object so multiple consecutive LODs draw the same object. You can set an element to null so it doesn't draw anything, which is typically the last element. A model can be assigned to multiple sprites. These are NOT disposed when the sprite is disposed.

#### 6.5.5.18 LodScale

```
double Blotch.BlSprite.LodScale = 9
```

Defines the LOD scaling. The higher this value, the closer you must be to see a given LOD. A value of 9 (default) indicates that the highest LOD (LODs[0]) occurs when an object with a diameter of 1 roughly fills the window. Set to a large negative value, like -1000, to disable LODs (i.e. always use the highest resolution LOD).

#### 6.5.5.19 Matrix

```
Matrix Blotch.BlSprite.Matrix = Matrix.Identity
```

The matrix for this sprite. This defines the sprite's orientation and position relative to the parent coordinate system. For more detailed information, see [AbsoluteMatrix](#).

#### 6.5.5.20 Mipmap

```
object Blotch.BlSprite.Mipmap = null
```

A [BIMipmap](#) or a single Texture2D object. The model must include texture coordinates for this to be visible. It must also include normals if lighting other than 'emissive' is desired. If it's a [BIMipmap](#), it will work the same as LODs (see LODs for more information). Specifically, the mipmap texture applied depends on the apparent size of the model. The next higher mipmap is used for every doubling of model size, where element zero is the highest resolution, used when the apparent size is largest. If a mipmap is not available for the apparent size, the next higher available one is used. Most graphics subsystems do support mipmaps, but these are software mipmaps, so only one image is used over a model for a given model apparent size rather than nearer portions of the model showing higher-level mipmaps. This is NOT disposed when the sprite is disposed, so a given [BIMipmap](#) or Texture2D may be assigned to multiple sprites.

#### 6.5.5.21 MipmapScale

```
double Blotch.BISprite.MipmapScale = 5
```

Defines the mipmap (Textures) scaling. The higher this value, the closer you must be to see a given mipmap. Set to a large negative value, like -1000, to disable mipmaps (i.e. always use the highest resolution mipmap).

#### 6.5.5.22 Name

```
string Blotch.BISprite.Name
```

The name of the [BISprite](#)

#### 6.5.5.23 Parent

```
BISprite Blotch.BISprite.Parent = null
```

When you use the [Add\(\)](#) method of a parent sprite to add a child sprite, the child sprite's Parent field is set to the Parent. If you add a child sprite in any other way, and you want the child's Parent field to reflect the parent, you'll have to assign it, yourself. This field is solely for reading by application code. It is not read by Blotch3D code. You might need this, for example, to implement particles via the FrameProc delegate. See particles example.

#### 6.5.5.24 PreDraw

```
PreDrawType Blotch.BISprite.PreDraw = null
```

If not null, [Draw](#) method calls this at the beginning before doing anything else. From this function one might examine and/or alter any public writable [BISprite](#) field, and/or control the further execution of the Draw method.

#### 6.5.5.25 PreLocal

```
PreLocalType Blotch.BISprite.PreLocal = null
```

If not null, [Draw](#) method calls this after drawing subsprites (if appropriate) but before drawing the local model. From this function one might examine and/or alter any public writable [BISprite](#) field, and/or abort the [Draw](#) method.

#### 6.5.5.26 PreSubsprites

```
PreSubspritesType Blotch.BlSprite.PreSubsprites = null
```

If not null, [Draw](#) method calls this after the matrix calculations for AbsoluteMatrix (including billboards, CamDistance, ConstSize, etc.) but before drawing the subsprites or local model. From this function one might examine and/or alter any public writable [BlSprite](#) field.

#### 6.5.5.27 SetEffect

```
SetMeshEffectType Blotch.BlSprite.SetEffect = null
```

If this not null, then the [Draw](#) method executes this delegate for each model mesh effect instead using the default BasicEffects. See the SpriteAlphaTexture for an example. If you use this but the effect is still of type [BlBasicEffect](#), then you might want to call SetupBasicEffect from within this delegate to set all the effect's parameters, rather than doing it yourself. The return value is the new or altered effect. If this is called when the thing to draw is a VertexPositionNormalTexture, then the effect parameter passed in is a null.

#### 6.5.5.28 SpecularColor

```
Vector3 Blotch.BlSprite.SpecularColor = null
```

The specular color. If null, MonoGame's default is kept.

#### 6.5.5.29 SpecularPower

```
float Blotch.BlSprite.SpecularPower = 4
```

If a specular color is specified, this is the specular power.

#### 6.5.5.30 SphericalBillboard

```
bool Blotch.BlSprite.SphericalBillboard = false
```

Spherically billboard the model. Specifically, keep the model's 'forward' direction pointing at the camera and keep its 'Up' direction pointing in the same direction as the camera's 'Up' direction. Also see [CylindricalBillboardX](#), [CylindricalBillboardY](#), [CylindricalBillboardZ](#), and [ConstSize](#).

### 6.5.6 Property Documentation



### 6.5.6.1 ApparentSize

```
double Blotch.BISprite.ApparentSize [get]
```

This is proportional to the apparent 2D size of the sprite. (Calculated from the last Draw operation that occurred, but before any effect of ConstSize)

### 6.5.6.2 CamDistance

```
double Blotch.BISprite.CamDistance [get]
```

Distance to the camera.

### 6.5.6.3 LodTarget

```
double Blotch.BISprite.LodTarget [get]
```

This read-only value is the log of the reciprocal of [ApparentSize](#). It is used in the calculation of the LOD and the mipmap level. See [LODs](#) and [Mipmap](#) for more information.

### 6.5.6.4 PrevCamDistance

```
double Blotch.BISprite.PrevCamDistance [get]
```

Internal use only. Used for predicting new depth clipping values

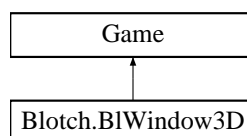
The documentation for this class was generated from the following file:

- C:/Users/kloum/Desktop/Source/Blotch3D/src/BISprite.cs

## 6.6 Blotch.BIWindow3D Class Reference

To make a 3D window, you must derive a class from [BIWindow3D](#) and override the [Setup](#), [FrameProc](#), and [FrameDraw](#) methods. When it comes time to open the 3D window, you instantiate that class and call its “Run” method from the same thread that instantiated it. The Run method will call the [Setup](#), [FrameProc](#), and [FrameDraw](#) methods when appropriate, and not return until the window closes. All code that accesses 3D resources must be done in that thread, including code that creates and uses all Blotch3D and MonoGame objects. Note that this rule also applies to any code structure that may internally use other threads, as well. Do not use Parallel, async, etc. code structures that access 3D resources. Other threads that need to access 3D resources can do so by passing a delegate to [EnqueueCommand](#) and [EnqueueCommandBlocking](#).

Inheritance diagram for Blotch.BIWindow3D:



## Public Member Functions

- delegate void [Command](#) ([BIWindow3D](#) win)  
See [EnqueueCommand](#), [EnqueueCommandBlocking](#), and [BIWindow3D](#) for more info
- [BIWindow3D](#) ()  
See [BIWindow3D](#) for details.
- void [EnqueueCommand](#) ([Command](#) cmd)  
Since all operations accessing 3D resources must be done by the 3D thread, this allows other threads to send commands to execute in the 3D thread. For example, you might need another thread to be able to create, move, and delete BISprites. You can also use this for general thread safety of various operations. This method does not block. Also see [BIWindow3D](#) and the (blocking) [EnqueueCommandBlocking](#) for more details.
- void [EnqueueCommandBlocking](#) ([Command](#) cmd)  
Since all operations accessing 3D resources must be done by the 3D thread, this allows other threads to send commands to execute in the 3D thread. For example, you might need another thread to be able to create, move, and delete BISprites. You can also use this for general thread safety of various operations. This method blocks until the command has executed. Also see [BIWindow3D](#) and the (non-blocking) [EnqueueCommand](#) for more details.
- void [FrameProcSpritesAdd](#) ([BISprite](#) s)  
Used internally
- void [FrameProcSpritesRemove](#) ([BISprite](#) s)  
Used internally
- new void [Dispose](#) ()  
When finished with the object, you should call [Dispose\(\)](#) from the same thread that created the object. You can call this multiple times, but once is enough. If it isn't called before the object becomes inaccessible, then the destructor will call it and, if [BIDebug.EnableDisposeErrors](#) is true (it is true by default for Debug builds), then it will get an exception saying that it wasn't called by the same thread that created it. This is because the platform's underlying 3D library (OpenGL, etc.) often requires 3D resources to be managed only by one thread.

## Public Attributes

- [BIGraphicsDeviceManager](#) [Graphics](#)  
The [BIGraphicsDeviceManager](#) associated with this window. This is automatically created when you create the [BIWindow3D](#).
- [ConcurrentDictionary](#)< string, [BIGuiControl](#) > [GuiControls](#) = new [ConcurrentDictionary](#)<string, [BIGuiControl](#)>()  
The GUI controls for this window. See [BIGuiControl](#) for details.
- bool [IsDisposed](#) = false  
Set when the object is Disposed.

## Protected Member Functions

- override void [Initialize](#) ()  
Used internally, Do NOT override. Use [Setup](#) instead.
- override void [LoadContent](#) ()  
Used internally, Do NOT override. Use [Setup](#) instead.
- virtual void [Setup](#) ()  
Override this and put all initialization and global content creation code in it. See [BIWindow3D](#) for details.
- override void [Update](#) ([GameTime](#) timeInfo)  
Used internally, Do NOT override. Use [FrameProc](#) instead.
- virtual void [FrameProc](#) ([GameTime](#) timeInfo)  
See [BIWindow3D](#) for details.
- override void [Draw](#) ([GameTime](#) timeInfo)  
Used internally, Do NOT override. Use [FrameDraw](#) instead.
- virtual void [FrameDraw](#) ([GameTime](#) timeInfo)  
See [BIWindow3D](#) for details.

### 6.6.1 Detailed Description

To make a 3D window, you must derive a class from [BIWindow3D](#) and override the [Setup](#), [FrameProc](#), and [FrameDraw](#) methods. When it comes time to open the 3D window, you instantiate that class and call its “Run” method from the same thread that instantiated it. The Run method will call the [Setup](#), [FrameProc](#), and [FrameDraw](#) methods when appropriate, and not return until the window closes. All code that accesses 3D resources must be done in that thread, including code that creates and uses all Blotch3D and MonoGame objects. Note that this rule also applies to any code structure that may internally use other threads, as well. Do not use Parallel, async, etc. code structures that access 3D resources. Other threads that need to access 3D resources can do so by passing a delegate to [EnqueueCommand](#) and [EnqueueCommandBlocking](#).

### 6.6.2 Constructor & Destructor Documentation

#### 6.6.2.1 BIWindow3D()

```
Blotch.BIWindow3D.BIWindow3D ( )
```

See [BIWindow3D](#) for details.

### 6.6.3 Member Function Documentation

#### 6.6.3.1 Command()

```
delegate void Blotch.BIWindow3D.Command (
    BIWindow3D win )
```

See [EnqueueCommand](#), [EnqueueCommandBlocking](#), and [BIWindow3D](#) for more info

##### Parameters

<i>win</i>	The <a href="#">BIWindow3D</a> object
------------	---------------------------------------

#### 6.6.3.2 Dispose()

```
new void Blotch.BIWindow3D.Dispose ( )
```

When finished with the object, you should call [Dispose\(\)](#) from the same thread that created the object. You can call this multiple times, but once is enough. If it isn't called before the object becomes inaccessible, then the destructor will call it and, if `BIDebug.EnableDisposeErrors` is true (it is true by default for Debug builds), then it will get an exception saying that it wasn't called by the same thread that created it. This is because the platform's underlying 3D library (OpenGL, etc.) often requires 3D resources to be managed only by one thread.

### 6.6.3.3 Draw()

```
override void Blotch.BlWindow3D.Draw (
    GameTime timeInfo ) [protected]
```

Used internally, Do NOT override. Use FrameDraw instead.

#### Parameters

<i>timeInfo</i>	
-----------------	--

### 6.6.3.4 EnqueueCommand()

```
void Blotch.BlWindow3D.EnqueueCommand (
    Command cmd )
```

Since all operations accessing 3D resources must be done by the 3D thread, this allows other threads to send commands to execute in the 3D thread. For example, you might need another thread to be able to create, move, and delete BISprites. You can also use this for general thread safety of various operations. This method does not block. Also see [BlWindow3D](#) and the (blocking) [EnqueueCommandBlocking](#) for more details.

#### Parameters

<i>cmd</i>	
------------	--

### 6.6.3.5 EnqueueCommandBlocking()

```
void Blotch.BlWindow3D.EnqueueCommandBlocking (
    Command cmd )
```

Since all operations accessing 3D resources must be done by the 3D thread, this allows other threads to send commands to execute in the 3D thread. For example, you might need another thread to be able to create, move, and delete BISprites. You can also use this for general thread safety of various operations. This method blocks until the command has executed. Also see [BlWindow3D](#) and the (non-blocking) [EnqueueCommand](#) for more details.

#### Parameters

<i>cmd</i>	
------------	--

### 6.6.3.6 FrameDraw()

```
virtual void Blotch.BlWindow3D.FrameDraw (
    GameTime timeInfo ) [protected], [virtual]
```

See [BIWindow3D](#) for details.

#### Parameters

<i>timeInfo</i>	
-----------------	--

#### 6.6.3.7 FrameProc()

```
virtual void Blotch.BIWindow3D.FrameProc (  
    GameTime timeInfo ) [protected], [virtual]
```

See [BIWindow3D](#) for details.

#### Parameters

<i>timeInfo</i>	
-----------------	--

#### 6.6.3.8 FrameProcSpritesAdd()

```
void Blotch.BIWindow3D.FrameProcSpritesAdd (  
    BISprite s )
```

Used internally

#### Parameters

<i>s</i>	
----------	--

#### 6.6.3.9 FrameProcSpritesRemove()

```
void Blotch.BIWindow3D.FrameProcSpritesRemove (  
    BISprite s )
```

Used internally

#### Parameters

<i>s</i>	
----------	--

#### 6.6.3.10 Initialize()

```
override void Blotch.BlWindow3D.Initialize ( ) [protected]
```

Used internally, Do NOT override. Use Setup instead.

#### 6.6.3.11 LoadContent()

```
override void Blotch.BlWindow3D.LoadContent ( ) [protected]
```

Used internally, Do NOT override. Use Setup instead.

#### 6.6.3.12 Setup()

```
virtual void Blotch.BlWindow3D.Setup ( ) [protected], [virtual]
```

Override this and put all initialization and global content creation code in it. See [BlWindow3D](#) for details.

#### 6.6.3.13 Update()

```
override void Blotch.BlWindow3D.Update (
    GameTime timeInfo ) [protected]
```

Used internally, Do NOT override. Use FrameProc instead.

##### Parameters

<i>timeInfo</i>	
-----------------	--

### 6.6.4 Member Data Documentation

#### 6.6.4.1 Graphics

[BlGraphicsDeviceManager](#) Blotch.BlWindow3D.Graphics

The [BlGraphicsDeviceManager](#) associated with this window. This is automatically created when you create the [BlWindow3D](#).

#### 6.6.4.2 GuiControls

```
ConcurrentDictionary<string, BlGuiControl> Blotch.BlWindow3D.GuiControls = new Concurrent<↵  
Dictionary<string, BlGuiControl>()
```

The GUI controls for this window. See [BlGuiControl](#) for details.

#### 6.6.4.3 IsDisposed

```
bool Blotch.BlWindow3D.IsDisposed = false
```

Set when the object is Disposed.

The documentation for this class was generated from the following file:

- C:/Users/kloum/Desktop/Source/Blotch3D/src/BlWindow3D.cs

## 6.7 Blotch.BIGraphicsDeviceManager.Light Class Reference

Defines a light. See the [Lights](#) field. The default BasicShader supports up to three lights.

### Public Attributes

- Vector3 **LightDirection** = new Vector3(1, 0, 0)
- Vector3 **LightDiffuseColor** = new Vector3(1, 0, 1)
- Vector3 **LightSpecularColor** = new Vector3(0, 1, 0)

#### 6.7.1 Detailed Description

Defines a light. See the [Lights](#) field. The default BasicShader supports up to three lights.

The documentation for this class was generated from the following file:

- C:/Users/kloum/Desktop/Source/Blotch3D/src/BIGraphicsDeviceManager.cs

